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Tuesday, February 20, 1979
Phalguna 1, 1900 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Seventh Session
(Sixth Lok Sabha)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, February 20, 1979/Phalguna 1, 1900 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBERS SWORN

SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH (Siddipet)

SHRI KUSHABHAU THAKRE (Khandwa)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Buffer Stock of Imported Steel

*1. SHRI SARAT KAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision to build a buffer stock of nearly half-a-million tonnes of imported steel was taken nearly 8 months back;

(b) if so, the progress thereof; and

(c) whether the steel buffer stock plan of Government is unlikely to materialise during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Out of 544,000 tonnes of steel under the buffer stock operation, 465,150 tonnes have already been contracted for; contracts for residual quantity will be finalised shortly. The entire contracted tonnage is expected

to be shipped by March-April 1979, 100,000 tonnes having already arrived at Indian ports.

SHRI SARAT KAR: My first Supplementary is: what possible benefits the steel industry will get out of this buffer stock of imported steel to meet our shortage both qualitatively and quantitatively. Is it not a fact that in the past when the previous government forced our steel industry to use the imported steel from the USSR compulsorily, the industry had to incur a heavy loss?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The answer to first part of his question is this. This is to meet the shortages and as the consumption has gone up, there has not been adequate planning previously to increase the capacity of the steel industry. This is a matter which we are taking up now. But it would take a long time before the new steel plant can be put into operation. Therefore, we have to live with shortages and imports for backing it up. The buffer stock idea was mooted by this government to meet the shortages both in quantity and in certain particular categories of steel which have not been produced in this country.

MR. SPEAKER: Second supplementary.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: He has already put the question.

MR. SPEAKER: Second part of the supplementary.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I have considered that discretion is better part of the valour.

MR. SPEAKER: I think so.

SHRI SARAT KAR: How many years will it take for the Steel industry to produce the required quantity of steel indigenously so that we need not import steel any more?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Until and unless we create new capacity, we will have to live with shortages.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: The impression given by the hon. Minister is that there is shortage in capacity. Can we know it accurately whether it is due to shortage in capacity or in the utilization of the capacity that exists?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I cannot say, that there is much shortage in utilization capacity; may be marginal because of difficulties like floods and other things.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Can you tell us about the utilization that has taken place?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The utilization of Indian steel industry is very good comparable to any.....

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Do not speak in general terms. We do not want a general answer. What is the quantitative utilization of the capacity that exists? What percentage of the capacity is being utilized? That is the precise question.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: If the hon. Member asks me a specific question, I will give a specific reply. The capacity utilization of our steel Plant has been from 85 per cent to 100 per cent from time to time, which, on an average, the world figures are 75 per cent to 80 per cent. So, our steel plants production generally has been good. But there have been difficulties. We could improve upon it subject to floods not being there, railway disturbances not being there, subject to various types of strikes not being there and so on. If all these factors could be corrected in this country, I have no doubt that we could have an average of 90-95 per cent of production.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether he is importing same type of steel from outside or the steel which we are not manufacturing in this country is being imported.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: What? No. no. We are not exporting those items on which there is a short supply. There is no question of export. Where we are in a shortage, we are importing to meet our requirement.

Safeguarding India's Security in view of China's acquisition of Nuclear Technology

*2. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that the recent acquisition of nuclear technology by China from France and USA without any provision of international inspection will increase Chinese capacity in the domain of nuclear weaponry, which is likely to pose serious threats to Indian security; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government and measures which they propose to take to safeguard country's security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) and (b). Government are aware of reports about the continued build up of China's nuclear capability.

Government have, more than once, reiterated their policy on nuclear weapons.

Government believe that the defence of our country can be ensured by adequate military preparedness, based on conventional weapons. Towards this end, we keep re-assessing our Geo-strategic environment in the light of developments from time to time, and steps are in hand—as part of a continuous review—to re-equip and modernise our Defence forces

according to our needs and in the context of changing technological and other requirements.

We keep constant vigilance on our borders and maintain complete defence preparedness at all times.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Whether the Government of India are aware that the USA terms for the supply of this nuclear technology from France to China will facilitate production of plutonium by China which will thereby increase their capability of nuclear weaponry and will tilt the balance of military equipment and military preparedness in this continent; and in view of the recent attack by China on Vietnam, whether the Government are going to take up with the President of the United States to stop this sort of supply of the strategic nuclear material to China.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): The Ministry of External Affairs will be taking up that question.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Are the cenventional weapons, about which the hon. Minister has said, capable of meeting any nuclear threat by countries like China? What is the modernisation of our Defence forces in view of this increasing threat and in view of the Chinese design—attack on Vietnam? Is India self sufficient to meet the aggression?

PROF. SHER SINGH: So far as we are concerned, we shall use every civilised means in our armoury to defend ourself and meet aggression from whatever quarter it may emanate. But as I have already explained, we do not think that China will think of using barbarous and nuclear weapons with impunity.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: Minister has stated that the danger from China will be mainly met by conventional weapons and civilised weapons. We have seen in the recent aggression on Vietnam China has used mainly tanks and there is also a chemical warfare. There are news in the newspapers also. In this context may I ask:

(a) In the context of China using tanks in a massive way, does the Government propose or has any plans to scrap our Vijayanta Tank and go in for West German tanks?

(b) Whether the Government has undertaken research in Chemical Warfare in order to meet the Chemical Warfare threat from China?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: We have also seen newspaper reports that some chemicals have been used by the Chinese in Vietnam. We have also seen reaction of practically all the nations of the world about such reported savagery engaged by China in Vietnam. We do not propose to meet savageness with savageness.

So far as Vijayanta Tanks are concerned, they are very good tanks and there is no necessity of scrapping them.

So far as the proposal of the hon. member for obtaining tanks from West Germany is concerned, I do not know whether he has ascertained from West Germany. West Germany still continues to be a Member of the NATO.

श्री सौगत राय : फ्रांस ने चीन को जो न्यूक्लियर टैक्नालाजी दी है उस में और भारत के साथ इस मामले में जो उसने कंडिशन रखी है उस में डिफ्रेंशिएट किया है । उस सम्बन्ध में आपकी क्या राय है ? क्या आपने यू एस ए सरकार को इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ लिखा है और कहा है कि यह डिफ्रेंशिएशन ठीक नहीं है ?

क्या आप कमर्शियल आर्म्स से न्यूक्लियर आर्म्स का मुकाबला कर सकेंगे ? अगर नहीं तो क्या एटम बम बनाने के बारे में आप अपनी नीति को रिवाइज करेंगे ?

श्री जगजीवन राम : माननीय सदस्य के प्रश्न में तीन चार प्रश्न मिले हुए हैं । जहां

तक पहले प्रश्न का सम्बन्ध है मैं डा० मुरली मनोहर जोशी के प्रश्न के उत्तर में उसका बचाव दे चुका हूं।

जहां तक दूसरे प्रश्न का सम्बन्ध है उनको यह मालूम होना चाहिए कि न्यूक्लियर बम या न्यूक्लियर वैपंज जो कुछ मुल्कों के पास हैं वे बचाव के अस्त्र नहीं हैं, विनाश के अस्त्र हैं। इनके द्वारा कोई अपना बचाव या सुरक्षा नहीं कर सकता है। हम तो किसी के ऊपर आक्रमण वगैरह नहीं सोचा करते हैं बचाव की ही बात सोचते हैं। इसलिए बचाव के लिए जितने उपयोगी अस्त्र हैं उनको तो रखेंगे लेकिन विनाश के अस्त्र नहीं रखेंगे।

चौधरी बलबीर सिंह : आपने कहा है कि बहुसीपन का मुकाबला बहुसीपन से नहीं करेंगे। किस तरह से तब करेंगे यह बताएं। जो बहुसी है उसको अपने बहुसीपन का सबूत देना ही है। 1962 में हुए हमले में उन्होंने हमारा इलाका हथिया लिया था और हमने वहां पर इसी सबब में एक रेजोल्यूशन पास किया था जो बहुत ही मुबारक रेजोल्यूशन था और उस में हमने कहा था कि हम अपना इलाका खाली करायेंगे। उसके बारे में हम अभी तक कोई कार्रवाई नहीं कर सके हैं सिवाय जबानी जमा खर्च के। बातचीत में यह मसला सिरे नहीं चढ़ सका है। अब बहुसीपन में आ कर अगर कभी यह हम पर हमला करता है तो उसका उत्तर देने के लिए हमारे पास कौन सा सिलिसिलाइज डैप है, कैसे उसका हम बचाव दे सकेंगे या जो कनवेंशनल हथियार हमारे पास हैं उन से कैसे हम उसका बचाव दे सकेंगे ? क्या हमारे टैंक पहाड़ियों पर उसी ढंग से चढ़ सकते हैं और क्या हमारे सैनिकों को इस किस्म के हथियार दिए गये हैं कि वह उनका मुकाबला कर सकें ?

श्री जग जीवन राम : जहां तक पहली लड़ाई का जिक्र है, अब वही भारत नहीं है, भारत कुछ दूसरा है।

दूसरी बात उस भूमि को लेने की है, तो मैं ऐसा मानता हूं कि शायद सदस्य महोदय को यह जानकारी है कि अपने विदेश मंत्री अभी चीन गये थे, लौट कर आये हैं, वह बयान भी आयेंगे। उन्होंने वहां जितने दिन रहना था, उससे पहले ही चले आये हैं, इसके इम्प्लीकेशन को भी समझना चाहिए। यह संभवतः कोई अपना बयान देंगे, उसमें सारी बातें तब होंगी। लेकिन जहां तक अभी कोई संघर्ष की बात हो, तो हमारी पूरी तैयारी है और हम ऊंचे से ऊंचे पहाड़ों पर जितने लड़ाई के साधन हैं, उन्हें पहुंचाने की सुविधा रखते हैं।

Effect of Inadequate Power Supply on Industrial Production

*3. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether lack of adequate power supply has hampered industrial production in certain areas during the current year; and

(b) if so, steps being taken to tone up the power generation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) While the power supply has remained by and large satisfactory, some pockets of shortages here and there could have been one of the contributing factors affecting industrial production especially in those areas where power intensive industries are located.

(b) A number of steps have been taken to improve power availability in the country. These measures include additions to the generating capacity, maximising generation from the existing installed capacity, integrated operation of different power systems.

SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY: Which are the places which suffered most because of short supply of electricity during the last two years? What is the proposal of the Minister to meet that shortage so that we may have good production in industries?

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: This question is of a very general nature and it may not be possible to enumerate all the places where the power shortage exists. At the same time, power shortage is not the only contributing factor affecting industrial production. There are verious other factors. It is only in a small way in some places that industrial production might have been affected because of power shortage.

SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY: Is it not a fact that short supply of coal has affected power generation?

If so, what steps the Ministers is contemplating so that we may have maximum production in our thermal units? Recently the Prime Minister has written a letter to all the Chief Ministers requesting them to see that the transmission losses are reduced below 19 per cent. What does he say about that?

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: It is true that some of the power stations are affected because of low stock of coal and thereby we have to reduce power generation in some of the power stations. Because of the movement problem this low stock has affected power production. I had a meeting with my colleague, the Railway Minister and we discussed measures for supplying coal to power stations. I hope in the coming few weeks the supply of coal to power stations will improve considerably thereby picking up the power generation.

Secondly, coal is available in plenty. As far as coal for power stations is concerned, we have got stocks at the pitheads to the tune of 12.5 million tonnes. In addition to that, there are middlings at the washeries side which can be used for power stations. Some of the power stations are using those middlings. In addition to this, we have taken steps to see that coal is exposed in open east mines abundantly which can be mined and supplied to the power stations as and when needed. So, there is no question of coal shortage in the country.

And the other problem is about the transmission losses. It is true the Prime Minister has written letters to the Chief Ministers of various States drawing their attention to reduce the transmission losses in the country because now the transmission losses are very high and we have to reduce the transmission losses, we have to strengthen the transmission system and also the distribution system in the country when we have to reduce the transmission losses.

श्री भानु कुमार शास्त्री : क्या यह सही है कि बिजली की पर्याप्त सप्लाई न होने के कारण इस देश में राजस्थान जैसे कई बिछड़े हुए भागों में कई उद्योगों को अपनी कैपेसिटी से 25 परसेंट कम निर्माण करना पड़ता है और उसी के कारण वे आज में चल रहे हैं ?

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: Sir, as I explained earlier, it is true that there are some pockets of power shortages in the country. It is only to improve the position that we are adding to the capacity and also trying to improve the existing power stations to maximise generation and unless sufficient time is given, we will not be able to improve the power generation.

SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN: In the statement made by the hon. Minister, he said that in some areas there was shortage of coal. Regarding Neively, last month the power generation has come down from 600 MW to 400 MW in the Neively Lignite Corporation. Tamil Nadu is facing the power cut due to the failure of the thermal station in the Neively Lignite Corporation. I would like to know whether the Minister has taken any steps to improve the power supply from Neively and whether he has sent anybody to look into this so that immediately the power cut will be removed in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: The installed capacity in Neively is not 900 MW, it is only 600 MW. The second thing is, for a few days in the beginning of this month because of failure of some of the equipment there, the Lignite production has suffered. The generation has come down and even at that low lignite production, the generation is kept at about 100 MW and today the generation has picked up to more than 300

MW, and in the course of the next few weeks the generation will pick up and Tamil Nadu will be supplied with power.

श्री रामावतार तिवारी : गत साल इसी सदन में मैंने प्रश्न उठाया था कि बिहार में पचास प्रतिशत लघु उद्योग-धंधे बिजली के अभाव में बंद पड़े हुए हैं। मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि इस बारे में सुधार हुआ है। लेकिन बिहार में बिजली के सम्बन्ध में वही स्थिति है, जो पहले थी। इसी लिए बिहार एक पिछड़ा हुआ राज्य है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि बिजली के सम्बन्ध में मंत्री महोदय क्या करने जा रहे हैं, जिससे बिहार को उचित मात्रा में बिजली मिले।

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: Sir, there was not adequate planning in Bihar with regard to the power availability in the past. That is why there are some shortages in Bihar. Even we are trying to help Bihar by getting power from Orissa and also some power supply from DVC and recently, in spite of power shortages we have tried to help Bihar State Electricity Board drawing power from other neighbouring States too and new schemes have been sanctioned in Bihar. As soon as these schemes are completed, power generation will be sufficient to supply to all the sectors in Bihar State electricity area.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware that there are some States in the country where the industrial development is yet to make a start due to poor supply of power? I would like to draw his attention to the North Eastern area viz., Manipur, Nagaland and Mizoram where the supply of coal and power supply is extremely poor. May 1 know whether the Government is aware that the industries, big or small, cannot be started in Manipur State due to inordinate delay in the commissioning of the Loktak Project, which is a Central Project? If so, I would like to know whether the Government is taking immediate steps to hasten the completion and whether during the pendency of the completion of the Project, the Government of India is taking any steps to make *ad hoc* arrangements to start some industries, at least small scale industries in the State.

MR. SPEAKER: That is outside the question.

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: Recently, 1 visited Manipur also and I visited Loktak Project too. There were some slippages in that Project because of the discovery of gas and some accidents and now adequate arrangements have been made to see that this Project is completed and the first unit will go into operation in the year 1982 and then there will be no shortage of power in Manipur State. As an *ad hoc* arrangement, some of the small power units are supplied with diesl. I held detailed discussions with the State Minister in this regard.

श्री किरंगी प्रसाद : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप के माध्यम से माननीय मंत्रीजी से जानना चाहता हूं कि जो देश में बिजली पैदा होती है उद्योग धन्धों के अलावा उस से कितनी बिजली कृषि के लिए जनता सरकार देने जा रही है? क्या सरकार इस बात को भी ध्यान में रख रही है कि कुछ माह पूर्व ऐसा समाचार प्रकाशित हुआ था कि सूर्य से शक्ति प्राप्त कर के बिजली का काफी काम लिया जायेगा? यदि हां, तो इस विषय में सरकार क्या कर रही है?

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: In this country the solar energy is still in research stage and as soon as the research is completed and we find the ways and means to use the solar energy commercially, we can think of using that for all purposes. But a major share of the power generated in the country goes into the industrial production.

Supply of I.D.P.L. Drugs through Fair Price Shops

+

*4. SHRIMATI AHILYA P. RAGNEKAR:
SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to supply IDPL's (Indian

Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.) life-saving and essential drugs through Cooperatives and Fair Price Shops for public distribution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL) distribute their formulations to consumers through their accredited dealers situated in different places of the country and these include a few Cooperative Stores also.

(b) These outlets handle the products on agreed commercial terms.

(c) Does not arise.

श्रीमती अहिल्या पी० रांगनेकर : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे मालूम नहीं यह सवाल किसी ने पढ़ा है या नहीं, क्योंकि जो जवाब दिया है वह सवाल से बिलकुल अलग है । मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि स्ट्रेप्टोमाइसिन, पेंसिलिन, ऐंटिबायटिक और सल्फा ड्रग्स, ये इतने महंगे हैं कि सामान्य लोगों को नहीं मिलते । अगर हम पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम में फेयर प्राइस शाप्स पर उन को लाएंगे तो जनता के लिए बहुत सहूलियत हो जायगी । यह सवाल पूछा था और क्यों नहीं लाते हैं यह पूछा था, उस का कारण क्या है, तो यह कहते हैं कि सवाल ही नहीं उठता । जो डिस्ट्रिब्यूटर्स हैं, आइ डी पी एल जिन को देता है, वह कास्ट प्राइस से चौगुनी प्राइस रख कर जनता को देते हैं । उस में साराभाई केमिकल्स भी है । मुझे मालूम नहीं क्या इसी कारण से जवाब नहीं मिलता है या क्या कारण है ? मैं जानना चाहती हूं कि सल्फा और दूसरे ऐंटिबायटिक ड्रग्स के बारे में क्या माननीय मंत्री जी फिर से कंसिडर करेंगे ?

श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा : मान्यवर, साराभाई केमिकल्स का आई डी पी एल से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है । साराभाई केमिकल्स हमारे डीलर्स भी नहीं हैं इसलिए वह सवाल उठता नहीं है । हमारे यहां जहां तक आई डी पी एल का सवाल है, रिटेल प्राइस भी हर दवाई पर छपी हुई है । अगर कहीं पर ऐसा हो रहा है कि दवाई दोगुने चारगुने पर दी जा रही है तो ऐसे डीलर्स की ट्रेड समाप्त करने के लिए हम कदम उठायेंगे, सिर्फ सूचना आने की देर होगी ।

दूसरी बात यह है कि हमारे मित्र, सहकारिता विभाग के मंत्री आजकल इस प्रश्न पर विचार कर रहे हैं और दवाइयों के जितने भी कारखाने हैं उनसे वार्ता चला रहे हैं तथा उसके बाद वे कोई निर्णय लेंगे ।

श्रीमती अहिल्या पी० रांगनेकर : तो यह बात सवाल के लिखित जवाब में आनी चाहिए थी । मंत्री जी ने तो जवाब दिया है—सवाल ही नहीं उठता । मंत्री महोदय इसके बारे में विचार कर रहे हैं—यह रिटेन आन्सर में आना चाहिए था । विचार हो रहा है —यह बहुत अच्छी चीज है ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को इस बात की जानकारी है कि इस प्रकार की दवायें बड़े पैमाने पर इस देश में नकली बन रही हैं ? इस सम्बन्ध में इन्दौर में कई दवाई बनाने वाली फैक्टरीज पर छापे डाले गए और वहां से नकली दवायें मिली हैं तो उस सम्बन्ध में कितने कारखानों के खिलाफ कार्यवाही की गई है ? क्या यह बात भी सही है कि इस मामले में बहुत बड़ा घोटाला करके, लेन-देन करके मामले को छिपाया गया है ? क्या इस सम्बन्ध में मन्त्री जी को जानकारी है ?

श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा : इस प्रश्न से तो यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता । मेरा मंत्रालय इस पक्ष को देखता नहीं है । इस पक्ष को केन्द्रीय सरकार का स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय तथा राज्य सरकारें देखती हैं इसलिए मेरे पास इसकी जानकारी नहीं है ।

श्री हरिकृष्ण लाल तिवारी : प्रश्न यह है क्या आपने कभी इस बात को सोचा है, कोई स्कीम बनाई है कि फेयर प्राइस शाप्स के द्वारा आई डी पी एल की दवाओं का वितरण किया जाये ताकि लोगों को सुविधापूर्वक दवायें मिल सकें ?

श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा : मान्यवर, ड्रग्स ऐण्ड कास्मेटिक्स ऐक्ट के मातहत दवाई बेचने का जो लाइसेंस लेना होता है वह मैं नहीं दे सकता, राज्य सरकारें देती हैं । फेयर प्राइस शाप्स में मिट्टी के तेल से लेकर परचून तक सभी चीजें बेची जाती हैं । कुछ दवायें रेफ्रीजरेटर में रखनी होती हैं और उसकी व्यवस्था हम नहीं कर सकते हैं लेकिन हमारे मित्र, सहकारिता विभाग के मंत्री इस प्रश्न को देख रहे हैं कि क्या किसी तरह से सहकारिता संस्थाओं के द्वारा, वायबल यूनिट्स के द्वारा इस काम को करा सकते हैं या नहीं । हमारे मंत्रालय का व्यापारिक दृष्टिकोण है, कम से कम एक लाख रुपये का एनुअल टर्नओवर हो, ऐसे आदमी को ही हम बेचेंगे । हम यह भी देखेंगे कि जगह ठीक है या नहीं, इक्वीपमेण्ट्स ठीक हैं या नहीं,

दवाई कहीं जहर तो नहीं बन जायेगी , जिस तरह से आटे में कीड़े पड़ जाते हैं उसी तरह से कहीं दवाई में भी न हो जाये—यह सारी बातें देखनी होती हैं।

DR. P. V. PERIASWAMY: There is severe shortage of Streptomycin in this country: there is no supply at all in the market. Is the Government aware of it and, if so, what steps are they taking to improve the supply of Streptomycin.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Streptomycin is in short supply the world over. Nevertheless, we are trying to make up for the shortage by producing more Streptomycin in the country and also by importing it, whenever available.

Piled up Iron Ore at Bailadila

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*5. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU:

SHRI NARENDRA SINH:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that iron ore worth crores of rupees has piled up at Bailadila Iron Ore Project of NMDC at Vishakhapatnam as a result of cut imposed by Japan for import;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the import agreement with Japan has been over and no efforts are made by Government for its revival or its export to other countries; and

(d) if so, the terms and conditions of agreement with Japan and reasons for its non-revival and steps that are proposed to be taken to export or use it within the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a result of recession in the Japanese steel industry and consequent reduced off-take by the Japanese steel industry and conse- 20.33 lakh tonnes of lump ore valued at Rs. 2,469.48 lakhs (f.o.b. prices) has stockpiled at the mine-head at Bailadila and the port at Visakhapatnam.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The current long-term contract with the Japanese Steel Mills will expire only on the 30th April, 1980. Negotiations for another long-term contract with the Japanese steel makers as well as other steel producing countries are in progress.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: There may be recession in Japan steel industry. But he has said that there is no stipulation in the contract that they have to take a specific quantity of ore from us. If so, why have they not taken the ore?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: There is a contract. The contract has a fluctuation I would say 'variations'. So, they have chosen for the negative action of reducing the contracted quantity by 10 per cent. I do not wish to dilate on it here. But the hon. Member would know that if a buyer is in difficulty and if he does not want to take the tonnage, the question of placement of ships and delays and things like that automatically reduce our export position and that is what has happened. But I am hoping that in the coming financial year, the position will substantially improve.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: The Minister has said that they are going to negotiate with other countries, steel producing countries. I would like to know which are those countries and what are the prospects.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The negotiations are going on with certain, if I may say so, European countries. I would not like to discuss this. Perhaps it will not be in our interest to say this. It is a business deal and negotia-

tions are going on for the last six months. It is taking some shape. I would not like to disclose the names of the countries or the price or the tonnage.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, from time to time, we have been considering exporting of pellets, sponge or the pig iron instead of merely iron ore. The hon. Minister is aware that there is a lot of fines at Bailadilla and in Visakhapatnam and the fines have no market as such. May I know from the hon. Minister what steps he has taken in respect of changing the export from mere ore to any of the three or all the three modes, namely, pellets, sponge iron and pig iron?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The last question he has put was regarding the sponge iron. I do not know what he meant. I think he means it pig iron.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I meant sponge, pellets and pig iron.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: We do not produce any sponge and that part of question is irrelevant. So, I would not deal with it. Now, the hon. Member wants to know whether the value added concept is being done. The question of our fines being in a very large quantity in our country is correct. I agree with the hon. Member. Besides that, we have accumulated over the last 20 or 30 years both fines and the blue dust. So, I am taking steps to ensure that we can build up at least 4 million tonnes of pellet capacity this time. But before doing that, the hon. Member would agree that I must be reasonably sure that there must be a buyer for at least 50 per cent of that, before the Government can consider investment because there is a fair amount of investment. I may tell you that recently the Indonesian delegation came here headed by their Senior Minister and they had come to an arrangement of purchasing about 2 million tonnes a year for their sponge iron plant. They are expected to produce sponge iron with the help of their natural gas of which there is an abundance in Indonesia, as the hon. Member knows. We are also planning a collaboration with Indonesia and some other Middle East countries to put up more sponge plants there with the help of their gas, use our pellets to convert their sponge iron and bring it back to our country for production of steel in our electric furnaces. This also we are considering very actively. I hope in the next 3-4 months we shall be able to conclude certain formal and final agreements. Regarding another area of pig iron, as I said earlier, I do not wish to name the country, we are negotiating with some European countries to put up blast furnaces in this country to produce at least one million tonnes of pig iron for reexporting to that country which will give us, as you can see, 5-6 times more added value to our iron ore. Then for our own steel requirement, base plants on two or three green sites, especially port base plants are under the consideration of the Government. I can assure the hon. Member is that we are doing our best in different disciplines.

श्री बसुदेव प्रसाद सारस्वती : मैं माननीय मंत्र जी से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि बेलाडिला में जो इतना अधिक लौह अयस्क इकट्ठा हो गया है, उस के सम्बन्ध में क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने बेलाडिला में ही बस्तर जिले में एक पेलेटाइजेशन प्लान्ट खोलने का अनुरोध व प्रस्ताव आप से किया है और अगर यह मांग की है तो आप लौह अयस्क का उपयोग अपने ही देश में पेलेटाइजेशन प्लान्ट खड़ा क्यों नहीं कर रहे हैं ? ऐसा करने में आप के सामने क्या दिक्कत है, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं ?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Madhya Pradesh Government has not applied to us for putting up a pelletization plant. I don't think it is within their financial capacity to do so. And pellets cannot be utilized in our country. Therefore, we cannot put up pellet plants by using our fines within the country. These could be used only in those countries which have to produce sponge by use of a gas in those countries like in Middle East, like in Mexico, like in Indonesia or in some other countries where there is abundance of gas.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Whether this particular situation has created a problem of lay-off/retrenchment for workers.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I don't know. The hon. Member konws about it very well. Do I need to add anything to it?

Take Over of TISCO

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*6. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:

SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR GUPTA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take over TISCO (Tata Iron and Steel Company);

(b) if so, when and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) to (c). This matter is still under consideration of the Government.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: He has given an evasive reply. In this particular case, the Tata held only 4 per cent of the total share of TISCO. There is a view that all these industries should be nationalised. Then this view was supported by the hon. Minister himself and also by the hon. Minister of Industry Shri George Fernandes. Then there is a news item in *The Sunday Statesman*, dated 18th February, 1979. It says:

"A significant observation made by Mr. Charan Singh was that besides foreign collaboration what really worried him was the "loose talks" about nationalisation pointing out that nationalization had no impact on production or employment and only offered perquisites to bureaucrats.'"

MR. SPEAKER: During Question Hour, you do not read like this.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: So, under the circumstances, it is due to the pressure of Tata that the question of take over has been abandoned so far. It is clear. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that due to pressure the Government is going to abandon the proposal for taking over the TISCO.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: When I say that the matter is under the consideration of the Government, the Government is bound to consider various opinions, various newspaper reports, right or wrong, pressures and counter-pressure. All those will be taken into consideration before the Government takes a decision. Again I say that the matter is under consideration.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: How much time does it take to consider it? And secondly, whether there is any control of the Indian Government over the administration and operation of the TISCO; whether there are any representatives from the Government sides; if so, who are those personnels?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: There are Government Directors on the Board on behalf of the shareholders, as the hon. Member himself said. The share holding by the nationalised banks and financial institutions amount to about 45 per cent. Government have various matters under consideration so as to increase the number of members on the Board, how to deal with the sales, to bring it under one umbrella and relevant matters like that. But as the hon. member has put it, which pressure Government will accept—I can say this can be only the pressure of the sovereign Parliament.

SHRI VINODBHAI B. SHETH: Sir, TISCO is one of the best managed and healthy units in the country and hence shall we stop speculating about nationalisation because it has got a de-moralising effect in the other indus-

trial pockets of the country and its share holdings? Will the Minister reply that it is not being nationalised?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I have nothing more to add to what I have already said.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: The Tata is on record, that the hon. Minister made a proposal, I should consider it a beneficial drill if it comes true, that the empire will be handed over to Tatas if they agree to nationalisation. I would like to know whether it is true?

What prevents the Government to bring in a Bill to nationalise it if they feel that it is being badly managed? What prevents the Government from exercising 38 per cent voting power against 2 per cent or 3 per cent of the Tatas to control the management and oust Tata management right now?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Unfortunately, the hon. Member is mixing issues. The control of management and nationalisation are two different matters.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you think that other aspects will be considered?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I will not like it to be unanswered. He has mentioned *inter alia* three matters. Is it properly managed or not? If it is not properly managed, take it over. The answer is that there is no complaint about the actual production and management of the plant.

The question put is—you have got 45 per cent and they have got 4 per cent, why do you not take over the management? The same question has the same answer.

The other question is whether Tatas will take over the management of all Steel Plants. The answer is 'no'. There is no such offer.

While they were discussing I said, "How long you want to keep it? You and I cannot live for very long. As you have managed for some years the nationalised Airlines, if you are so fond of steel, why do you not head the Government Board as its Chairman". That is not handing over to Tatas. It is not quite correct as the hon. member put it. If Tatas have projected in that manner, I think he is barking up the wrong tree. That is all I have to say at the moment.

Shifting of Bhagalpur Radio Station

*7. DR RAMJI SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in shifting the Bhagalpur Radio Station by Government to Bhagalpur city;

(b) whether Government of India have written to Government of Bihar for providing accommodation;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to hire accommodation in the meantime; and

(d) if so, by what time the shifting is expected to take place?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Bhagalpur is at present an auxiliary Centre of A.I.R. with the transmitter at a distance of about 8 k.m. from the city. The question of its shifting to the city does not arise. However, efforts are being made to establish a city office for this Radio Station at Bhagalpur.

(b) A.I.R. Bhagalpur has written to the District Magistrate for providing accommodation for the city office.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As stated earlier, there is no shifting involved. The establishment

of a city office will depend on the availability of accommodation.

डा० राजजी सिंह : भागलपुर में बारह वर्ष पहले आपने आकाशवाणी का केन्द्र स्थापित किया गया था और कहा था कि प्रोग्राम स्टूडियो कहीं दूसरी जगह ले जाएंगे । यह केन्द्र भागलपुर शहर से आठ मील की दूरी पर है । वहीं ट्रांसमिटर है । वहीं स्टूडियो है । शहर की सीमा से दूर कलाकारों को, बच्चों को और औरतों को जाने में कठिनाई होती है, यातायात की असुविधा भी है और असुरक्षा की भावना भी व्याप्त रहती है क्योंकि सड़कों पर हत्यायें होती रहती हैं । जिस प्रकार से और जगह शहर के बीच में ही प्रोग्राम स्टूडियो की स्थापना की जाती है उसी प्रकार से भागलपुर में भी करने में इतना विलम्ब क्यों किया जा रहा है ? क्या आप कोई समय निर्धारित करेंगे जिस के भीतर इसकी स्थापना हो जाए, एक या दो महीने का समय निर्धारित करेंगे इस के वास्ते ताकि शहर के अन्दर ही प्रोग्राम स्टूडियो की स्थापना हो जाए ?

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी : जैसा मैंने पहले कहा है कि भागलपुर में फुल फ्लैज्ड स्टुडियो नहीं है, सहायक केन्द्र है । ट्रांसमिटर तो शहर से दूर ही होता है, बाहर ही होता है । जो विकल्प माननीय सदस्य ने बताई हैं उनको ध्यान में रखते हुए शहर में भी कार्यालय स्थापित किया जाएगा और इस हेतु प्रयत्न जारी है । मैं माननीय सदस्य को जानकारी देना चाहता हूं कि छठी योजना में भागलपुर में स्थायी केन्द्र स्थापित करने का भी निर्णय हो चुका है और परमानेंट स्टूडियो भी वहां बन जाएगा ।

डा० राजजी सिंह : मैं मंत्री महोदय को इसके लिए धन्यवाद देता हूं । कि बारह वर्ष के बाद उन्होंने अपना संकल्प पूरा किया है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बारह वर्ष उनको नहीं हुए हैं ।

डा० राजजी सिंह : प्रोग्राम स्टूडियो के स्थानान्तरण के लिए क्या मैं उनको एक सुझाव दे सकता हूं और वह यह है कि आप सीधे बिहार सरकार को इस सम्बन्ध में लिखें और अगर नहीं लिखना चाहते हैं तो अपने विभाग के अधिकारियों को कहें कि कोई प्राइवेट मकान ले लें और दस दिन में इस स्टुडियो को शुरू कर दें ?

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी : इस विषय में डी एम को पत्र लिखा है । वह भी बिहार सरकार का ही प्रतिनिधि है । हम तो चाहते हैं कि जल्दी से जल्दी हमें मकान मिल जाए, ताकि यह केन्द्र शहर में भी हम लोग स्थापित कर सकें ।

श्री बुक्कराय : उत्तरी बिहार की बहुत बड़ी संख्या को भी आपको ध्यान में रखना चाहिए । आज आपके सहायक आकाशवाणी के केन्द्र दरभंगा और भागलपुर में हैं । क्या आपके पास ऐसी कोई योजना है कि उत्तरी बिहार की समुचित जन संख्या को आकाशवाणी का लाभ पहुंचाने के लिए कटिहार अथवा पूर्णिया अथवा सहरसा में ऐसे सहायक केन्द्र हो सकें ?

MR. SPEAKER: It is completely out of the question.

Alleged Malpractices at Petrol Pumps in Delhi

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*9. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received by Government of India about the defective meters at the petrol pumps in Delhi and New Delhi particularly in Lawrence Road Area;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that adulterated Mobil Oil is being supplied to the consumers by these Petrol pumps; and

(c) whether Government propose to conduct raids on all such petrol pumps to stop these malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (c). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) A representation from Democratic Vigilance Committee, New Delhi, was received, stating that a number of petrol pumps in Delhi have got defective meters and that the proprietors of petrol pumps are generally selling mixed products. According to the information received from the oil companies, they have not come across

any instance of products being short delivered due to defective pump meters or adulterated products being sold at any of their retail pump outlets operating in Delhi.

With regard to Lawrence Road area in Delhi, one complaint was received by the Indian Oil Corporation about defective meter at a retail outlet. However, on investigation, the meter assembly of this petrol pump was found to be delivering the correct quantity.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Officers of the oil companies as well as pump chargemen, who are specially trained in maintenance job of retail outlets periodically inspect these outlets and as a part of the procedure laid down check the delivery of dispensing pumps, for ensuring correct quantity. Apart from this, the Weights and Measures Department of the State Governments also conduct surprise checks from time to time to ensure that dispensing pumps deliver the correct quantity of product. As and when a complaint is lodged about inaccuracy of quantity being delivered by dispensing pumps, it is investigated by checking the meter unit of concerned dispensing pump for accuracy by the Weights and Measures Department. In Delhi, sales representatives of oil companies are conducting surprise checks at the retail outlets, draw representative samples of lubricating oils and send the same to their laboratory for testing.

The Ministry have also asked the oil companies to take appropriate measures for ensuring that adulterated products are not sold by their outlets/dealers. Chief Ministers of State Governments and Administrators of Union Territories have also been requested to provide assistance and cooperation in curbing the offence of adulteration of petroleum products, particularly motor spirit (petrol), diesel and lubricating oils.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Has the Government not received a representation from the Democratic Vigilance Committee, Delhi? In their representation, they detailed all the petrol pumps that are indulging, according to them, in this malpractice.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: So far as the letter of the Democratic Vigilance Committee is concerned, it talks about the behaviour of most of the petrol pump dealers and with regard to specific details, they have not mentioned any single petrol pump.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: It is rather strange that the Government simply acted as a mere post office and the complaint was referred to the oil companies.

I would like to know from the Government as to what concrete steps did it take to verify the complaints and whether any raids etc. or any investigation was carried on or simply the Government is relying on the information received from the oil companies. Further, I would like to know whether the oil companies themselves carried out any investigation into the specific complaints.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Sir, the Ministry of Petroleum do not have any field organisation as such. We function through the Indian oil companies which are corporations of Government of India and which are 100 per cent autonomous bodies. These organisations own their own inspecting staff. We have certainly to ask for a report from them, but I have, during the last two years, addressed the Chief Ministers of the States twice with regard to two aspects: The vigilance to be maintained by them under the provisions of the Weights and Measures Acts which are a State subject and also the question of adulteration which they can also do. Under this condition in Delhi itself 13,085 inspections were made by the State Government and 26 surprise checks were made by them. Some 55 people were prosecuted for different types of fault or defects under various laws, so far as the question of adulteration

is concerned, the oil companies did not find any mistake or difficulty with these pumps.

श्री मुक्तियार सिंह मलिक : स्पीकर साहब, पैट्रोल में अडलट्रेशन की बीमारी आज कोई नई बात नहीं है, हमेशा से इसकी बाबत शिकायत चली आती है, जो ब्लीकल्स और कार रखते हैं, उनको इसके बारे में पता है। यह सवाल इतना इन्नोसेंट तो नहीं था, जिस इन्नोसेंस के साथ हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब इसके बारे में बता रहे हैं। यह बड़ी भारी बीमारी है और इसे पैट्रोल पम्पों पर और इंडियन आयल कम्पनी पर ही छोड़ देना कोई अच्छी बात नहीं है। इसके साथ ही मैं यह भी अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इसके चैकिंग की रिस्पौंसिब्लिटी को स्टेट गवर्नमेंट पर शिफ्ट करना भी ठीक नहीं है। कई स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को इसका पता भी नहीं है कि वह पैट्रोल पम्पों पर अडल्ट्रेशन की चैकिंग के लिए या इसके मेजरमेंट के लिए जा भी सकते हैं या नहीं। मंत्री महोदय स्टेटों से पूछ कर देखें कि आया उन्हें इसके बारे में पता भी है या नहीं ? मंत्री महोदय ने जैसे बताया कि मिनिस्ट्री की तरफ से हमारा कोई फील्ड स्टाफ नहीं है, मैं उनसे जानना चाहता हूं कि इंडियन आयल कम्पनी की चैकिंग के लिए अपनी लैबोरेटरी में क्या अडल्ट्रेशन का कोई टस्ट कराने की सुविधा देने को वह तैयार हैं या नहीं ?

श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा : मान्यवर, मैंने पहले ही बताया कि राज्य सरकारों को पूरी जानकारी है और दिल्ली की सरकार की तरफ से 1385 सुझायने हुए हैं आउट-लैट्स के, जो कि दिल्ली में हैं और 26 बार उनकी सरप्राइज चैकिंग भी की गई है। 55 जगहों पर मुकदमे भी चलाये गये हैं जहां कि भूलें पाई गई हैं।

श्री मुक्तियार सिंह मलिक : आप सिर्फ दिल्ली की बात बता रहे हैं।

श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा : प्रश्न दिल्ली से सम्बन्धित है, हरियाणा से नहीं। अगर हरियाणा में जानकारी नहीं है तो मैं बताता हूं कि चीफ मिनिस्ट्स को पहला पत्र 5 अगस्त, 1978 को गया है और दूसरा पत्र अभी हाल ही में 9 फरवरी, 1979 को गया है। 55 लोगों पर जिन पर मुकदमें चलाये गये हैं।

MR. SPEAKER: You are not to answer unquestioned supplementaries. The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Clearance of arrears of cases in Supreme Court and High Courts

*8. SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the precise progress made towards clearance of the arrears of cases in Supreme Court and High Courts as a result of firm and effective steps taken during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): As a result of the steps taken during the last two years, the disposal of cases in the Supreme Court has gone up from 7,734 cases in 1976 to 17,095 cases in 1978. Although because of greatly enhanced institution in 1978 the total pendency has continued to increase the rate of increase of pendency in respect of regular hearing matters has diminished considerably from 32.3 per cent in 1977 to 4.0 per cent in 1978.

Regarding the High Courts the figures for the entire year of 1978 are not yet available for all the High Courts. Figures for the first half of 1978 show that disposal was 2,18,933 compared to 1,83,942 during the corresponding period of 1977 and 1,80,679 during the corresponding period of 1976. Although, upto 30-6-1978 overall pendency in the High Courts had increased, the overall rate of increase in pendency had declined by 30-6-1978. Moreover, in respect of the eight High Courts for which figures are available upto 31-12-1978, namely the High Courts of Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Patna and Punjab and Haryana the pendency as a whole, which had gone up to 2,51,099 by 31-12-1977, had declined to 2,47,620 by 31-1-1978, in sipte of increased institutions.

Kudremukh Project

*10. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:
SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the targets for the different phases of construction of the Kudremukh Project;

(b) is the work going on according to schedule and what is the progress made so far;

(c) if the progress is behind schedule, reasons for the same;

(d) when the Project is expected to go into operation; and

(e) have the current developments of Iran affected in any way the technical cooperation agreement entered into earlier in respect of the Kudremukh Project?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) Mechanical completion of the project proper is scheduled by December, 1979, and the first shipment of iron ore concentrate is to commence from August, 1980. The development of New Mangalore port is to be completed by March, 1980.

(b) Yes, Sir. The project is progressing as per schedule and no delay is anticipated in its completion. The civil and structural works are in an advanced stage of completion. The erection of mechanical and electrical equipment is in progress.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) While production will commence earlier even during the trial-run period, commercial operation will start in August, 1980.

(e) No, Sir.

Self-Sufficiency in Conventional Arms

*11. SHRI HARI VISHUN KAMATH: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has attained self-sufficiency so far as conventional arms and equipment for all the three wings, the Army, Navy and Air Force are concerned;

(b) if not, what the present position is with regard to the indigenous production and manufacture of such arms and equipment;

(c) if there be deficiency, how it is being tided over or proposed to be overcome;

(d) the broad outlines of such short-range and long-range plans for making up the deficiency;

(e) the names of countries from which arms and equipment are being imported to make up the deficiency if any;

(f) the quantum and value of such imports, the figures for each country to be given separately;

(g) whether such imports are with or without strings attached; and

(h) if there be any strings, the nature and details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) to (h). The overwhelming proportion of our requirement of arms for the Defence forces, is met from indigenous production and supply. Our indigenous Defence industries have, by now, acquired a wide and varied base, covering the production of such sophisticated items as Super-sonic aircraft; Warships of various kinds; Tanks and Specialised vehicles; Radar and Communication equipment; Rockets and Missiles; Chemicals and Propellants; Field and other guns; and other arms and ammunition for all the three Services.

For a portion of our requirements, however, imports become necessary, either because new technology is involved which is not yet available in the country, or sometimes because limited requirements are involved. As a matter of general policy, wherever an equipment or store is required in a substantial enough quantity and on

the basis of continuing need, steps are explored simultaneously with imports to organise indigenous production. In programmes for indigenisation, emphasis is laid on critical items or those of high value.

To the extent imports become necessary, procuremet is made from a wide range of countries abroad, depending upon the particular item required and its availability and terms of supply. However, all such imports are accepted without "strings".

For reasons which the Hon'ble Member will appreciate, it will not be in the public interest to disclose details either of Defence procurement from abroad or of indigenous production.

Loss in Bokaro Steel

*12. SHRI RAM DHARI SHASTRI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether loss made by the Bokaro Steel Plant is Rs. 10.10 crores against a profit of Rs. 1.76 crores in the previous year; and

(b) if so, why?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) and (b). As per the balance sheets there was a profit of Rs. 1.76 crores in 1976-77 and a loss of Rs. 10.10 crores for 1977-78. Production in 1977-78 was 815,000 tonnes which was marginally higher than the production of 796,000 tonnes in 1976-77, but was lower than the target by 233,000 tonnes. The shortfall in production was mainly on account of serious power problems, poor quality of coal supplies and resultant coke and industrial relations difficulties. Inspite of this, the cash generation in 1977-78 was Rs. 30.66 crores (depreciation Rs. 40.76 crores less Rs. 10.10 crores). Comparative figure for 1976-77 was a cash surplus of Rs. 30.56 crores (depreciation Rs. 28.80 crores plus profit Rs. 1.76 crores).

सरकारी क्षेत्र के उर्वरक कारखानों में श्रम-समस्या

*13. श्री [illegible] : क्या पैट्रोलियम तथा रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री 21 नवम्बर, 1978 के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 27 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) उपर्युक्त प्रश्न के उत्तर में सभा पटल पर रखे गये विवरण के भाग (क) के अन्तिम पैराग्राफ में उल्लिखित श्रम-समस्या "पद" का सरकारी क्षेत्र के उर्वरक कारखानों के सन्दर्भ में पृथक्-पृथक् ब्यौरा क्या है और

(ख) सरकारी क्षेत्र के उन उर्वरक कारखानों के नाम क्या हैं जिनमें विद्युत् उत्पादन की रक्षित सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराई गई हैं तथा उन कारखानों के नाम क्या हैं जिन्होंने चालू वर्ष में बिजली की समस्या का सामना किया तथा इसका प्रत्येक कारखाने के उत्पादन पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ा ।

पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) सरकारी क्षेत्र में दुर्गापुर कारखाना एक ऐसा कारखाना है जिसमें जनवरी—जून, 1978 के दौरान श्रमिक समस्याओं के कारण उत्पादन में हानि हुई है । इस एकक में जनवरी—जून 1978 के दौरान 43 दिन की हड़ताल हुई थी जिसके परिणाम स्वरूप उत्पादन में लगभग 16,500 टन नाइट्रोजन की हानि हुई है ।

(ख) एफ० ए० सी० टी० (कोचीन-1) में 14 मेगावाट बिजली उत्पन्न करने की कैप्टिव पावर सुविधा उपलब्ध है जिससे लगभग 70 प्रतिशत आवश्यकता की पूर्ति हो जाती है । इसके अलावा तीन अन्य सरकारी क्षेत्र के खाद कारखानों अर्थात् दुर्गापुर, गोरखपुर और ट्राम्बे को भी कैप्टिव पावर प्लान्ट स्थापित करने की अनुमति दी गई है । सरकारी क्षेत्र के निम्नलिखित खाद कारखानों में भी चालू वित्तीय वर्ष के दौरान बिजली की समस्या के कारण उत्पादन में हानि हुई है

हानि की मात्रा को प्रत्येक एकक के सामने दर्शाया गया है :—

एकक का नाम	अप्रैल, 1978 से जनवरी 1979 की अवधि के दौरान नाइट्रोजन के रूप में हुई हानि
	टन
1. दुर्गापुर	2300
2. गोरखपुर	5100
3. बरौनी	4000
4. ट्राम्बे	387
5. नामरूप विस्तार	2390

Steel Output during December, 1978-January, 1979

*14. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether December, 1978—January, 1979 showed decline in steel production in comparison to the corresponding period last year;

(b) whether steel output has declined during December, 1978 and January, 1979 due to the all-round raw materials crisis caused by the non-availability of the required railway wagons,

(c) if so, to what extent the steel output has declined;

(d) whether the period of December—March is generally considered the best production months; and

(e) if so, what efforts have been made to increase the production during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There was no decline in the total indigenous production of steel in the months of December, 1978 and January, 1979 as compared to the production in the corresponding months of the preceding year. In fact, the total production of steel from April, 1978 to January, 1979 was appreciably more than the production in the corresponding period previous year, though it fell short of the targetted production due to the following main reasons:—

(i) continued problems in the supply of coking coal, both in terms of quantity and quality, resulting in cut back in the pushing of coke ovens at all the plants; (ii) power restrictions for varying durations at Bhilai, Durgapur, Bokaro and IISCO; (iii) industrial relations problems in some of the plants; (iv) critical position of some raw materials at some of the plants and inadequate availability of railway wagons.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Close and constant liaison continues to be maintained with the Ministry of Energy, DVC authorities, Electricity Boards, coal supplying agencies and the Railway so as to secure maximum supplies of power, good coking coal and other raw materials. About 31,000 tonnes of imported coking coal were received in January, 1979, and about 1,20,000 tonnes are expected to be received in the months of February and March, 1979, which would help supplement indigenous supplies.

Increase in Prices of Crude Oil by Arabian Oil Producing Countries

*15. DR. BIJOY MONDAL:
SHRI DHARMA VIR VASHISHT:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Arabian Oil Producing countries have recently taken a decision to increase the prices of Crude Oil;

(b) if so, what will be its impact on the economy of India;

(c) whether Government is considering to revise the oil prices for domestic consumption; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir. A decision to increase crude oil prices during 1979 has been taken by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

(b) This would result in an increased expenditure in foreign exchange of about Rs. 179 crores during 1979, based on our best estimates of consumption of crude oil and deficit petroleum products. The impact in 1980 and subsequent years is expected to be higher.

(c) Various proposals are being examined to meet the situation, the details of which cannot be divulged in the public interest.

(d) Does not arise.

टेलीविजन केन्द्र

*16. श्री लक्ष्मीनारायण नायक : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में टेलीविजन केन्द्र कहां-कहां खोले गए हैं ;

(ख) इन केन्द्रों को खोलने का क्या मानदंड अपनाया गया था ; और

(ग) क्या बुन्देलखण्ड के पिछड़ेपन को ध्यान में रखते हुए और वहां के सांस्कृतिक विकास के लिए सरकार का छतरपुर में एक टेलीविजन केन्द्र खोलने का प्रस्ताव है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) :

1. अमृतसर दूरदर्शन केन्द्र ।
2. बम्बई दूरदर्शन केन्द्र ।
3. कलकत्ता दूरदर्शन केन्द्र ।
4. दिल्ली दूरदर्शन केन्द्र ।
5. गुलबर्ग दूरदर्शन प्रेषण केन्द्र ।
6. हैदराबाद दूरदर्शन प्रेषण केन्द्र ।
7. जयपुर दूरदर्शन प्रेषण केन्द्र ।
8. कानपुर दूरदर्शन रिले केन्द्र ।
9. लखनऊ दूरदर्शन केन्द्र ।
10. मद्रास दूरदर्शन केन्द्र ।
11. मसूरी दूरदर्शन रिले केन्द्र ।
12. मुजफ्फरपुर दूरदर्शन प्रेषण केन्द्र ।
13. पिंजौर दूरदर्शन प्रेषण केन्द्र ।
14. पुणे दूरदर्शन रिले केन्द्र ।
15. रायपुर दूरदर्शन प्रेषण केन्द्र
16. सम्बलपुर दूरदर्शन प्रेषण केन्द्र ।
17. श्रीनगर दूरदर्शन केन्द्र ।

सम्बलपुर, जयपुर, मुजफ्फरपुर, रायपुर, हैदराबाद और गुलबर्ग प्रेषण केन्द्रों के लिए कार्यक्रम तैयार करने के लिए कटक, दिल्ली और हैदराबाद में स्थापित बेस प्रोडक्शन सैण्टर ।

(ख) दूरदर्शन केन्द्र स्थापित करने का मुख्य मापदण्ड हैं :—

1. यथासम्भव अधिक से अधिक क्षेत्र को विशेष कर ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को कवर करना ।
2. तकनीकी सम्भाव्यता ,
3. वित्तीय संसाधनों की उपलब्धि, और
4. योजना आयोग द्वारा प्राथमिकताओं का आवेदन ।

(ग) जी, नहीं

Seventh International Film Festival of India

*17. SHRI AMRIT NAHATA:
SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Seventh International Film Festival of India was held recently in New Delhi;

(b) what were the objectives of holding this and earlier festivals;

(c) how far have these objectives been achieved; and

(d) how much money was spent for the Seventh Festival by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, Film Finance Corporation, Indian Motion Pictures Export Corporation and other Institutions?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes Sir, from January 3 to 17, 1979.

(b) The objectives of the festivals were broadly two-fold, one to project, during a single event, contemporary trends in cinema from all over the world and the other, to provide a forum to the Indian and other film makers for exchange of cinematic experience by bringing together the best in world cinema.

(c) The objectives were largely achieved as the films screened were representative of cinema trends from all over the world, including the works of some outstanding contemporary directors. A large number of cine-personalities from India and abroad participated and there was a lively exchange of ideas through symposium and inter personal contacts.

(d) The actual figure of expenditure will become available only after all the bills have been received, scrutinised and paid. However, preliminary estimates are that the expenditure will be of the order of Rs. 39 lakhs.

Invitation to India for UNIDO Conference

*18. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:
SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has also been invited at the conference of UNIDO which is examining the question of better steel output among the developed and developing countries:

(b) if so, when the meeting is likely to be held;

(c) how many countries are participating;

(d) whether India is placing her difficulties before the Conference;

(e) if so, the details of the same; and

(f) what are the other suggestions or proposals likely to be placed before the conference by India?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) to (f). Presumably the reference is to the UNIDO Second Consultation Meeting on the Iron and Steel Industry held in New Delhi from 15th to 19th January, 1979, at the invitation of Government of India. As a follow up of the First Consultation Meeting held at Vienna in February, 1977, this Conference was to consider further measures for international cooperation in the development of iron and steel industry as also the manner in which developed countries could assist the developing countries in their steel industry development programmes. 155 delegates from 52 countries and 12 international agencies participated in the Meeting.

The most important outcome of the Conference was that the developed countries accepted the necessity for the developing countries, which have natural resource endowments, to create fresh capacities or expand their steel industry where a start has already been made and declared their continuing willingness to assist the developing countries in this respect, notwithstanding the fact that steel industry in most of the Western countries as well as in Japan is presently passing through unfavourable situation. There was also unanimity that for the development of the steel industry in the developing countries finance was the

most critical input. Similarly, there were problems of managerial inputs, exchange of technical information and training of manpower. It was, therefore, decided that a working group should be constituted under the auspices of UNIDO which will go into the question of 'resource mobilisation' for setting up steel plants in the developing countries as a total package including finance. This working group will consist of experts from the developed countries, developing countries and some of the international organisations

Press Comments on Seventh International Film Festival

*19. SHRI SAUGATA ROY:

SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money spent on the Seventh International Film Festival at New Delhi;

(b) the number of new films entered in the festival; and

(c) the reasons for the very hostile comments by the Press about the festival as evidenced by the reports in *India Today*, January 16, 1979 and *Blitz*, January 26, 1979?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) As the accounts are still being finalised, it is not possible to give the exact amount of expenditure. However, the estimated expenditure is Rs. 39 lakhs.

(b) None of the films in the Competition and in the Information Section of the Seventh International Film Festival of India had been released in India before the Festival, with the exception of two Hungarian films which formed a part of a selection of films by Ms. Marta Meszaros, and were screened in International Film Festivals held in India in January, 1976 and January, 1977.

(c) The reaction of the Press to an event of this magnitude is always mixed. There have also been favourable Press reviews regarding the Festival. In fact, in the very next issue of India Today after the 16th January, 1979, a comprehensive and favourable report appeared on the Festival.

Explosion in Borgolai Colliery, Assam

*20. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY:

CHAUDHURY BRAHM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the explosion at the Borgolai Colliery, 5 KM's from Margherita in Upper Assam;

(b) the number of persons killed and injured in this explosion;

(c) the nature of assistance given to the victims of explosion; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to prevent further such explosions in this colliery?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The explosion at Baragolai Colliery under Coal India Ltd., in Assam occured on 22nd January, 1979 due to ignition of methane gas. The reasons for ignition is under investigation by Director General, Mines Safety.

(b) Out of 320 workmen present in the mine at the time of explosion, 57 were affected. 9 persons received burn injuries, out of which 4 died in the hospital. 12 persons were found dead in the mine due to noxious gases.

(c) Rs. 500/- as *ex-gratia*, Rs. 200/- funeral expenses and further *ex-gratia* of Rs. 1.000/- has been paid to each

family of the 16 deceased workmen. Payments under Workman's Compensation Act to the persons entitled are being arranged. Injured persons are being given free treatment. Cases for employment of one adult member from each bereaved family are being processed. Injured persons discharged from hospitals have already been rehabilitated in their original jobs.

(d) Investigations into the causes and circumstances of the ignition are being made by Director General of Mines Safety. All precautionary measures are being taken to prevent further such explosions in the collieries.

Extending Municipal Limit to Air Force Station in Jamnagar

1. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Gujarat Government is extending municipal limit in Jamnagar upto the area of Air Force Station in Jamnagar;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Gujarat Government is extending the limit on the plea of providing civic amenities in the area which is not habitated at all;

(c) whether it is fact that in 1965 during India-Pakistan conflict some squatters were allowed which created security risks and their structures were immediately demolished;

(d) whether Government have called a detailed report from the Commanding Officer of the Air Force Station at Jamnagar in this regard;

(e) whether Government has asked the Gujarat Government not to extend the municipal limits in any circumstances and in any form involving security risks in the defence area; and

(f) if so, with what results?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b). Government are aware of the plans of the Government of Gujarat to extend the municipal limits of Jamnagar Municipal Committee. According to the State authorities, the Municipality has sent the proposal to the State Government so as to provide civic amenities to families living in the area.

(c) to (f). A few hutments had come up at a distance of 200 yards of the Air Force Camp which were removed by the Local Civil Authorities. Government of Gujarat have been approached to ensure that no construction is permitted within 900 metres of the Air Force Camp without prior concurrence of the Air Force authorities. Their confirmation is awaited.

Grant of Import Licence to M/s. I.D.P.L. for Doxycycline Project

2. SHRI S. S. SOMANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) value of capital goods import licence granted to M/s. IDPL for the import of plant and machinery for their Doxycycline project;

(b) whether orders have been placed for the capital goods required for the project and if so, date, value and delivery schedule of orders placed; and

(c) whether all equipments ordered for the project have been received and when is the plant likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) M/s. I.D.P.L. have been granted import licence for import of plant and machinery for Doxycycline Project for a value of Rs. 6,68,948/-.

(b) The final import order for the supply of capital goods required for

the project was placed on 22nd July, 1978 with delivery within two months of the placement of order. The value is as stated, at (a) above.

(c) All the equipments ordered for the project have been received. Trials at the Pilot Plant have been started and the trial production at the main plant will be taken up during March, 1979.

Representation for Broadcasting programmes in Sindhi Language

3. SHRI DHARMASINHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation regarding broadcasting of songs, news and other Programmes in Sindhi Language from Akashvani, Rajkot, Gujarat State;

(b) whether it is true that such type of representation was sent to Government before 2½ years by one Sh. Atmaram B. Chandwani of Bantwa town of Junagadh District;

(c) whether Government wants to broadcast Sindhi songs, news and programmes or not; and

(d) if not, reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Shri Atmaram B. Chandwani had sent his letters on 5th May, 1977 and 4th October, 1977.

(c) and (d). The Central Sindhi News Bulletins are broadcast from Delhi at 0840 hours and 1810 hours for a duration of 10 minutes each and are relayed by Ahmedabad-Badodra, Jaipur-Ajmer and Bombay Stations. The Megawatt transmitter of Rajkot puts out a Sindhi programme daily for a duration of 60 minutes for the Sindhi listeners of the adjoining areas. This programme is well received in the entire State of Gujarat including Saurashtra region. The Sindhi Music (Light and Folk) is occasionally broadcast from Rajkot. However, taking into account the population of Sindhi in the region covered by the Station, it is not considered necessary to introduce news or spoken-word items in Sindhi from this Station.

Representations from Maharashtra Bar Council

4. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 3693 on the 13th December, 1977 regarding representations from Maharashtra Bar council and to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bar Council of Maharashtra by its representations dated the 20th October, 1974 and 6th January, 1977 urged upon the Government that Section 30 of Advocates Act, 1961 be brought into force so as to enable an advocate to appear before any High Court in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that an Advocate can appear before the Supreme Court as of right; if so, how this anomaly is to be removed;

(c) since when Government are holding consultations with the Supreme Court and Ministry of Labour for the enforcement of Section 30 of the said Act; and with what results; and

(d) whether Government now propose to bring into force section 30 of the Act in near future; if so, since when?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. An Advocate can appear before the Supreme Court only in accordance with the rules framed under article 145(1)(a) of the Constitution.

(c) and (d). The question of bringing Section 30 of the Advocates Act into force is still under consideration in consultation with those interested in the matter.

Extension and Improvement of ECL, BCL and Western Coalfields

5. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts sanctioned for the last three financial years for the extension and improvement of E.C.L. and Western Coalfield and also B.C.L.

(b) whether it is a fact that amount sanctioned for the purpose in E.C.L. is less in comparison with others;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) is it also a fact that if sufficient fund is available for E.C.L. more areas in E.C.L. can be brought under operation thereby raising the employment opportunities in E.C.L.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The amounts as per revised estimates for the years 1975-76 to 1977-78 provided to the ECL, BCCL and WCL for the development of mines are as follows:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
ECL . .	3604	3812	4108
BCCL . .	4624	4116	5162
WCL . .	3820	3746	3451

For the purpose of comparison of investment in the mines, the investment in the spill-over of Fourth Plan projects in respect of BCCL and WCL, as well as investment on washeries and Bhandara explosive project should be excluded. Excluding these two items, the revised figures in BCCL and WCL would be as follows:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
BCCL . .	3129	3619	3185
WCL . .	2928	2855	2644

(b) and (c). From the above figures it would be seen that the amounts sanctioned for ECL mines are not less than others.

(d) In the ECL, the investment is both towards reconstruction and reorganisation of the existing mines, and new mines. there will be always availability of surplus personnel from the reconstructed/reorganised existing mines who would be first deployed in the new mines and, therefore, the employment opportunities depend upon different stages of development in new mines *vis-a-vis* reconstruction of new mines. The number of new employment opportunities created in ECL during 1977 was 859 and during 1978 upto end of November was 1404.

Setting up of Fertilizer Projects

6. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state the number of fertilizer projects to be set up in 1979-80, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): The following major fertilizer projects which are at present under implementation are expected to go into trial production during 1979-80:

State	Name of the project	
Haryana	Panipat (National Fertilizers Limited)	
Punjab	Bhatinda (National Fertilizers Limited)	
Bihar	Sindri—Modernisation & Sindri Rationalisation	Fertilizers Corporation of India
Andhra Pradesh . . .	Ramagundam	Do.
Orissa	Talcher	Do.
W. Bengal . . .	Haldia	Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation.
U.P.	Phulpur	Indian Farmers and Fertilizers Cooperative Ltd.
Gujarat	Baroch	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizer Co. Limited.

The gas based fertilizer projects proposed to be set up at Thal Vaishet in Maharashtra and at Hazira in Surat, Namrup III and the expansion of the IEL plant at Kanpur are expected to be taken up for implementation during 1979-80.

Certificates given to Films

7. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the certificates that are being given to films in India and the details thereof;

(b) what is the yardstick the Central Board of Film Censors is applying to certify the films such as 'A' etc. and the details thereof; and

(c) how many films were given the above certificates during the calender year 1977 and upto the end of December, 1978, and the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) There are two categories of certificates issued to films for public exhibition in India, namely, 'U' (for unrestricted public exhibition) and 'A' (for public exhibition restricted to adults).

(b) All films are examined by the Board of Film Censors in accordance with the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (37 of 1952) and the guidelines issued thereunder in January, 1978. Films which are considered by the Board as unsuitable for exhibition to non-adults are certified for exhibition restricted to adults only.

(c) The region-wise break-up of the number of films granted 'U' and 'A' certificates during the years 1977 and 1978 is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Region wise break-up of films certified by the Central Board of Film Censors as 'U' and 'A' during the calendar years 1977 and 1978

Year	Indian Films				Foreign films				Grand total	
	Feature films		Short films		Feature films		Short films			
	'U' certificates	'A' certificates	'U' certificates	'A' certificates	'U' certificates	'A' certificates	'U' certificates	'A' certificates	'U' certificates	'A' certificates
1977 Bombay	181	5	884	1	101	56	800	9		
Calcutta	43	4	115		32	2	82	—		
Madras	304	20	206	—	1	—	55	4		
TOTAL	528	29	1205	1	134	58	937	13	2804	101
1978 Bombay	152	20	852	—	82	33	664	4		
Calcutta	55	2	102	—	22	1	78	1		
Madras	347	43	195	—	1	—	20	2		
TOTAL	554	65	1149	—	105	34	762	7	2570	106

Production of Steel during 1978

8. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steel production in the country has registered a fall during 1978; and

(b) if so, the production during 1977 and 1978 and the reasons for fall in production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). There has been a marginal fall in production of steel during 1978 at the integrated steel plants when compared to 1977. The production of saleable steel was 6.535 Million Tonnes during 1978 from the integrated steel plants as against 7.006 Million Tonnes during 1977. The main reasons for shortfall during 1978 were as under:—

1. Shortage and frequent restrictions/fluctuations in power supply, particularly from DVC and MPEB.

2. Continued problems in supplies of coking coal to the steel plants both in terms of quantity and quality, restricted pushing of ovens at all the steel plants of SAIL resulting in lower level of production at all the units of the Plants.

3. Un-precedented rains and floods during September, 1978 in West Bengal and Bihar areas resulting in flooding of coal fields as well as Durgapur Steel Plant and affecting the Rail movements and the equipments at Durgapur Steel Plant.

राजस्थान में पाली के निकट चांदी के बड़े निक्षेप

9. श्री दौलत राम सारण : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राजस्थान में पाली के निकट ग्राम बुमाता और पुनाचर माता जी की भाकड़ी के बीच के मैदानों में चौड़ी सी गहराई पर चांदी के बड़े निक्षेप पाये गये हैं ;

(ख) क्या इस हेतु इस क्षेत्र का कोई सर्वेक्षण किया गया है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो क्या सरकार का विचार उसे करने का है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो उस के क्या कारण हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कड़िया मुण्डा) (क) और (ख). इस क्षेत्र में चांदी के ऐसे किसी निक्षेप की कोई सूचना नहीं है। भारतीय भू-वैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण ने पुनाचड़ हिल संवेरला क्षेत्र में सीसा-जस्ता और अन्य आधार धातुओं के लिए खोज की थी। इन खोजों से 5 पी० पी० एम० से कम चांदी होने की सूचना मिली थी।

(ग) और (घ). चूंकि प्राप्त परिणाम उत्साहवर्द्धक नहीं हैं, अतः आगे और अधिक खोज करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

Quota of Coal to States

10. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to shortfalls in the production of coal, Government cut the quota of coal to States for domestic use during the last few months and as a result certain States and Union Territories have to regulate its distribution to consumers through ration cards;

(b) if so, the percentage of cut in the quota of States; and

(c) steps Government propose to take to give full quota to States and Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). There has been shortfall in the production of soft coke due to floods and other unforeseen circumstances, as a result of which the supplies of soft coke to the different States were adversely affected. There was, however, no cut as such made by the Government in the quota of soft coke to the different States.

(c). The production of soft coke has increased substantially in recent months. Close cooperation is maintained with the railways for improvement in wagon supplies. Road movement is allowed by the coal companies wherever necessary.

Transfer of Building Technology for Submarines by some Countries

11. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received offers from the ship-yards in France, Sweden and Netherlands, Italy and West Germany to provide for the transfer of building technology for the manufacture of submarines in India;

(b) if so, furnish broad details of the offer received/under consideration.

(c) since how long these proposals continued to remain under processing/examination and how soon a final decision in the matter could be expected to be taken; and

(d) if a final decision in this regard has already been taken details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The offers received are under consideration. A decision is expected to be taken soon. The Honourable Member would appreciate that it will not be in the public interest to disclose further details at this stage.

Film produced by Government of Tripura

13. SHRI SACHINDRA LAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Tripura produced three films;

(b) if so, the details of the film and the amount spent for that;

(c) whether these films were shown in Delhi; and

(d) if not, the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (d). Information is being collected from the State Government of Tripura and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Prices of Erythromycin Stearate Produced by M/s. Themis Pharmaceuticals

14. SHRI S. S. DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that declared price of Erythromycin Stearate manufactured by M/s. Themis Pharmaceuticals were not accepted whereas prices of several other foreign companies were accepted;

(b) what are the reasons for this discrimination; and

(c) whether D.P.R.C. have been recommending prices of bulk drugs without basing them on any guideline if so, whether recommendations of DPRC were accepted with the approval of Minister?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Government is empowered under paragraph 4 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970 to fix the prices of Essential Bulk Drugs after such enquiry as it deems fit for the purpose. Accordingly, Government fixed a price of Rs. 1300/- per kg. for Erythromycin Stearate which is one of the Essential Bulk Drugs. For an essential bulk drug like Erythromycin, the question of acceptance of declared prices does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Drugs prices Review Committee makes its recommendations in regard to the prices of indigenously produced bulk drugs either on the basis of the cost study conducted by the BICP or keeping in view the prices of imported drugs fixed for CPC/IDPL, import content per unit of production, existing prices approved for such bulk drugs and such other relevant considerations. Decision on the recommendations made by the D.P.R.C. is taken with the approval of competent authority.

Functions of Committees which organised Seventh International Film Festival

15. SHRI L. L. KAPOOR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Seventh International Film Festival was held in New Delhi in January 1979;

(b) if so, whether special Committees were constituted for the organisation of the Festival;

(c) details of the different committees, the functions of these committees, the names of the members of these committees;

(d) whether any allowances were paid to the non-official members of these committees;

(e) whether any travelling allowance was paid to the members of these committee members; and

(f) the total amount of daily allowance and travelling allowance paid to the members of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A Statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT—3261/79]

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir.

(f) Rs. 27,148.50

Development of Indian Pharmaceutical Industry

16. SHRI YASHWANT BOROLE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what have been constraints on development of Indian pharmaceutical industry during last three years; and what were incentives given to Indian sector of this industry in the recent past; and

(b) what are reasons for slow growth of Indian pharmaceutical industry as compared to foreign sector and if a study of this case has been made by an official group; the observations arrived at by such a study?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) No constraints on the development of the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry seem to be evident during the last 3 years.

Several measures of direction, control and encouragement have been included in the New Drug Policy which will direct, incidentally, the activities of foreign drug companies to subserve national objectives and interest. Some specific measures of preference to be given to Indian Sector Units are as follows:—

(i) While licensing units for the manufacture of bulk drugs, the Indian companies (other than MRTP units) are being asked to part with 30 per cent of their production to non-associated formulators, as against 50 per cent in the case of foreign firms. In other words, such Indian companies can formulate upto 70 per cent of their production as against only 50 per cent by the foreign sector.

(ii) Certain restrictions which were being applied on the industry requireing units having a turnover of Rs. 2. crores and more to produce the bulk drugs requied for new formulations, have now been removed for the Indian sector. The Indian Sector can take up additional formulation activity, provided the turnover of their formulations and bulk drugs is within the ratio of 10:1 whereas the ratio for foreign firms is restricted to only 5:1.

(iii) Industrial licences for the production of formulations will not be issued to the foreign sector unless linked with production of high technology bulk drugs from the basic stage.

(iv) A number of bulk drugs have been earmarked for production by the Public/Indian sectors of the industry.

(b) It does not appear as if there has been slow growth of the Indian Pharmaceutical industry. The Hathi Committee on the Drugs and Pharmaceauticals Industry in their Report dated April 1975 observed that there were 116 organised sector drug units, of which only 34 were foreign units. The rest were Indian units. As of May

1978, there were 136 organised sector units of which 38 were foreign units.

While no such study has been made by an official group, the Working Group set up in 1977 by the Planning Commission has made projections of the country's demand of Bulk Drugs and formulations. The projected quantum of bulk drugs expected to be available is likely to result in a production of formulations of Rs. 1875 crores (1982-83) and Rs. 2160 crores (1983-84). The following Table gives the approximate distribution of formulation turnover between the four sectors of this Industry.

	1976-77		1982-83		Annual
	Value Rs. Crores	% of total	Value Rs. Crores	% of Total	growth % rate %
Public Sector . . .	47	6·7	250	13·3	32·1
Indian Sector . . .	241	34·4	700	37·3	19·4
Foreign Sector . .	292	41·7	575	30·7	11·9
Small Scale Sector . .	120	17·1	350	18·7	19·5
TOTAL . . .	700		1875		

The table will show that ample encouragement of the Indian (including public and Small Scale) Sectors has been envisioned, as also higher rates of growth.

मैसर्स पार्ले (एक्सपोरटर्स) प्राईवेट लिमिटेड में पूंजी निवेश

17. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या वित्त, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री पार्ले एक्सपोर्ट्स प्राइवेट लिमिटेड द्वारा कम्पनी कानून के उल्लंघन के बारे में 21 नवम्बर 1978 के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 312 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) मैसर्स पार्ले (एक्सपोर्ट्स) प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के 14 साझीदारों में से प्रत्येक द्वारा कितनी कितनी पूंजी का निवेश किया गया और प्रत्येक मामले में निवेश किस तिथि को किया गया, तथा क्या उक्त फर्म ने इसे दिये गये लाइसेंस को किसी दूसरी फर्म को देने के लिए भारी राशि वसूल की है, और यदि हां, तो कितनी और यह किस के नाम पर वसूल की गई है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि उक्त फर्म द्वारा एक अन्य नाम पर उसी प्रकार का उद्योग और व्यापार चलाया जा रहा है और यदि हां, तो यह किन स्थानों पर चलाया जा रहा है और उस में कितनी पूंजी लगी है; और

(ग) उक्त फर्म की स्थापना कब हुई थी और इसकी स्थापना के समय इस के कितने साझीदार थे तथा इसके प्रत्येक साझीदार के द्वारा कितनी पूंजी लगाई गई थी तथा जो मृत क साझीदारों की पूंजी के दावेदारों के नाम क्या हैं तथा उन में से प्रत्येक किस तिथि को साझीदार बना तथा प्रत्येक द्वारा कितना निवेश किया गया ?

वित्त, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री शान्ति भूषण) : (क) मैसर्स पार्ले (एक्सपोर्टर्स) प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के 30 अक्तूबर, 1978 तक बनाई गई वार्षिक विवरणी के अनुसार, इस के सम्बन्धित व्यक्तियों द्वारा हिस्सों के नियोजन/प्राप्ति की तारीख बताते हुए हिस्सेधारिता के ब्यौरे युक्त एक विवरण-पत्र सभा पटल पर रखा गया है [सम्बालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या एल टी-3262/79]

कम्पनी रजिस्ट्रार, महाराष्ट्र के पास उपलब्ध दस्तावेजों से ज्ञात नहीं होता है कि इस कम्पनी ने इसे दिये गये किसी लाइसेंस को हस्तांतरित कर के भारी धन इकट्ठा किया है।

(ख) कम्पनी रजिस्ट्रार, महाराष्ट्र के पास उपलब्ध सूचना से यह पता नहीं चलता कि यह कम्पनी किसी अन्य नाम से इसी प्रकार का कोई अन्य उद्योग अथवा व्यापार चला रही है। तथापि, इस कम्पनी के

निम्नलिखित सहायक कम्पनियों में नियोजित हैं :—

1. मै० विल्सी बोर्तालिंग कम्पनी प्रा० लि०
2. मै० पार्ले ग्लवरेजेज प्रा० लि०
3. मै० विल्लेरी (इण्डिया) लि०
4. मै० फाउन कैप्स प्रा० लि०

इस कम्पनी के निम्नलिखित कम्पनियों/निगम निकायों में भी हिस्से हैं :—

1. मै० गुजरात बोर्तालिंग कम्पनी प्रा० लि०
2. मै० पार्ले (सिंगापुर) प्रा० लि०

(ग) यह कम्पनी 24 मार्च, 1952 को विनिर्मित हुई थी। निम्नलिखित व्यक्ति इस कम्पनी के प्रारम्भिक सदस्य (पार्षद नियमों के हस्ताक्षर कर्ता) हैं :—

1. श्री पीताम्बर मोहन लाल
2. श्री नरोत्तम मोहन लाल
3. श्री कान्ति लाल मोहन लाल
4. श्री जयन्ती लाल मोहन लाल

उपरोक्त हस्ताक्षरकर्ताओं में से प्रत्येक ने 100 रु. की दर के 10 हिस्से लिये थे।

विभाग को मै० पार्ले (एक्सपोर्टस) प्राइवेट लिमिटेड में श्री जयन्तीलाल मोहन लाल चौहान (स्वर्गीय) तथा श्रीमती जयवन्ती जयन्ती लाल चौहान (स्वर्गीय) द्वारा धारित हिस्सों के दावेदारों की जानकारी नहीं है।

Management in Big Public Limited Companies

18. SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have declared as its policy to introduce professional as against hereditary and family management now existing particularly in big public limited companies;

(b) what are the steps being taken to achieve the above objective; and

(c) whether the above policy is taken into consideration in the case of fresh appointments or renewal of appointments of Managing and whole-time Directors when such appointments come up for approval under the Companies Act?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) to (c). The Government have set before themselves the objective to encourage professionalisation of management to the maximum extent possible. The Sachar Committee also have made certain suggestions in this regard, which will be duly considered by the Government. While according approvals for appointment or reappointment of Managing and whole-time Directors of public limited companies and private companies, which are subsidiaries of public limited companies, the professional background, qualifications and experience suitability or fitness of the person concerned are duly considered by the Government.

Tagging the Rampur IB-River Group of Collieries to the Central Coal Field Ltd. (at Talcher)

19. SHRI PABITRAMOHAN PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been any suggestions and schemes for tagging the Rampur, IB-River group of collieries to the Central Coal field Ltd. (at Talcher) by detagging the same group of collieries from the Western coal fields Ltd. in view of the fact that the said group of collieries are only at a distance of 140 miles from Talcher and much nearer to Ranchi; and

(b) in view of the nearness of the Rampur and IB-River group of collieries and from the consideration of these being located in the State of Orissa, the Rampur & IB-River collieries be tagged to Talcher (Orissa) group of collieries under the G.M. at Talcher (Orissa)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). There is at present no proposal to transfer the Rampur, IB-River group of collieries from the Western Coalfields Ltd. to Central Coalfields Ltd.

Reported Discovery of New Gas Field near Bombay

20. SHRI F. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new gas field 120 Kms. north west of Bombay City has been recently discovered;

(b) whether it has been officially rated as highly significant as it will boost the gas availability from the Cambay region to a great extent;

(c) whether estalishment of commercial gas field in Bassein followed by the discovery of Tapti and the latest gas find will not call for an advance planning for utilisation of gas for production of fertilisers, petro-chemicals, generation of power, etc; and

(d) in view of fairly large quantities of gas now expected to be available from off-shore whether Gujarat Government has submitted any new projects or has made proposals revising its earlier projects for utilisation of gas for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Gas has been discovered in the first well drilled in a structure, north of North Bassein field.

(b) The results obtained from the first well drilled in this structure are considered good. To determine the commerciality of this field, additional wells are proposed to be drilled by ONGC and it will thereafter be possible to assess its potential.

(c) Necessary advance action for offshore gas that may be availbale is utilisation of the larger reserves of being initiated.

(d) No revised proposals have been received from the Government of Gujarat.

Electoral Reforms

21. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTY:

SHRI A. R. BADRINARAYAN:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are actively considering Electoral Reforms, and whether Government have received one or more reports on the subject from one or more special study groups or committees in the country;

(b) if so, full facts thereof;

(c) whether Government have also received or seen reports of the several suggestions and comments made in this regard by the present Chief Election Commissioner; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has received (i) report of the Committee on electoral reforms appointed by Shri Jayaprakash Narayan on behalf of the Citizens for Democracy under the Chairmanship of Shri V. M. Tarkunde (commonly known, as Tarkunde Committee Report), (ii) Proposals of the Communist Party of India for electoral reforms adopted by the National Council of the Party in April, 1975; (iii) Memorandum submitted by Shri S. N. Mishra, Shri L.K. Advani and some others, (iv) Proposals for electoral reform from the Election Commission, and (v) Proposals from individuals, and organisations on electoral reforms.

(c) and (d). Government have seen Press Reports regarding the views expressed from time to time by the Chief Election Commissioner on electoral reforms. Such of the suggestions for electoral reforms as have been received from the Chief Election Commissioner for the consideration of Government are under examination alongwith the recommendations/suggestions contained in the aforesaid reports/documents as part of the comprehensive proposals for electoral reforms currently under Government's study.

Utilization of Installed Capacity of IISCO.

22. SHRI KUMARI ANANTHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the Indian Iron and Steel Company being able to utilise only 65 per cent of the plant's installed capacity of 1 million tonnes of ingot steel; and

(b) the action taken on the recommendations made by the team of industrial engineers picked from four Steel Plants to make a study of manpower of Burnpur Works and also the system of incentives required to be adopted for reaching the level of full utilisation of installed capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) The main reasons for low capacity utilisation in IISCO are: outmoded technology in certain areas, erratic operational parameters of the blast furnaces and lower availability of hot metal and slag ladles for steel making, lower availability of Bessemer Converters and Open Hearth Furnaces, indifferent industrial relations, power restrictions from DVC, etc. It is, however, significant that the capacity utilisation of IISCO has improved steadily from about 43 per cent in 1972-73 to 65 per cent in 1977-78.

(b) The work of the team of industrial engineers has not yet been completed.

Shortage of Petroleum Products in Orissa

23. SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL:

SHRI PABITRAMOHAN PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute shortage of diesel, petrol and cooking gas in the country and particularly in Orissa; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to improve the availability situation of these essential items in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) In spite of shortfalls in crude oil availability from Iran and difficulties in obtaining crude oil and petroleum products from the international market, all efforts were made to ensure supplies of petroleum products like diesel and petrol to various locations of the country according to the demand. The average sales during October, 1978 to January, 1979, of motor spirit (petrol) and high speed diesel oil have been about 10.1 per cent and 12.7 per cent respectively higher than those in the corresponding 4 months of the previous year. Similarly, during October, 1978 to December, 1978 and the first half of January, 1979, the average sales of motor spirit (petrol) and high speed diesel oil in Orissa State have been more than those of the corresponding period of the earlier year by about 17 per cent and 14 per cent respectively. Despite these higher sales, however, there have been reports of shortages in certain locations in Orissa and elsewhere because of movement constraints and low stocks of products in certain feeding locations.

As regards liquefied petroleum gas (cooking gas), the demand of the existing customers is sought to be met in full. During the last quarter of 1978, the normal average requirements of cooking gas in Orissa have been met by the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (Visakh Marketing Unit). In respect of the cooking gas supplies made by the Indian Oil Corporation, due to reduced availability of the product at Haldia on account of maintenance shutdown and transportation problems, there has been a backlog. At Cuttack, the backlog in Indane supplies is due to problems connected with distributorship and supplies are being arranged from Bhubaneshwar.

(b) All possible action for improving the inventories of products at the feeding locations and for increasing despatches to depot locations is being taken. The Haldia refinery is expected to be back on stream after the maintenance shutdown, whereafter the supply position in Orissa State is expected to improve. The oil companies are also making *ad-hoc* arrangement for transportation of LPG cylinders from Visakhapatnam/Barauni refinery, to the extent possible, to reduce the hardships to the consumers.

Replacement of Obsolete Transport Planes in I.A.F.

24. SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to replace the obsolete fleet of Dakotas, Fair Child Packets, Canberras and the Avros and going in for purchase of modern transport planes for the I.A.F.;

(b) if so, what are the new types of transport air-crafts that are going to be purchased; and

(c) whether other countries have been sounded for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) Government propose to progressively replace the obsolete fleet of Dakotas and Packets of the Indian Air Force by suitable modern transport aircraft. Canberras are not transport aircraft; however, they are to be replaced by the Jaguars Avros (HS 748) are not yet obsolete and there is no proposal to replace them.

(b) and (c). Government are considering various possibilities, involving aircrafts made in different countries. No decisions on actual purchase have been taken yet.

Bonus Issue for Defence Employees

25. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a Committee to consider the Bonus issue for the Defence employees; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

Developments of large number of Pits in Raniganj and Asansol Coal Belt Area

26. SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that thousand acres of lands in Raniganj and Asansol coal belt area are continuously destroyed due to development of larger numbers of pits as a result of excavation of coals below these lands and not filling these empty spaces with sand as necessary;

(b) what is the total area of lands in acres thus affected in these coal belt areas for such irresponsible digging;

(c) is it also a fact that losses of coal due to fire hazards are on the increase enormously due to lack of proper fire fighting equipments; and

(d) if so, what is the total amount of losses thus incurred annually and the remedial steps taken by the Government to reduce the losses to minimum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). The Raniganj coalfied occupies approximately 1500 sq. km. area and the mining operations started as early as 1777 and all along had been the major coal producing centre in the country. At many places, old workings have created subsidences. During pre-nationalisation period the erstwhile private colliery owners being interested mainly in quick profits did not heed to the scientific and organised mining, which left the area prone to subsidence. However, after nationalisation, scientific and organised mining has been practised. Out of 112 collieries under Eastern Coalfields Ltd., in 40 such collieries hydraulic sand stowing has been adopted and in the other collieries, such stowing at present is not considered necessary. However, precautions are taken by way of sand stowing and/or by adopting other means of protective measures for the areas occupying important surface structures and buildings.

The Central Government are in correspondence with the West Bengal Government for creation of an area development authority for management of the area.

(c) and (d). No Sir. Due to spontaneous heating of coal, certain unapproachable areas earlier worked have been affected by fire, but the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. are organised to tackle such fires in collaboration with the Director General, Mines Safety.

उपभोक्ताओं, कारखानों तथा विद्युत् प्रजनन केन्द्रों के सामने कोयले का संकट

27. श्री डी० अनसर :
डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय :
श्री सुभाष अहूजा :
श्री प्रधान सिंह ठाकुर :

क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गत अप्रैल मास की तुलना में गत नवम्बर-दिसम्बर के दौरान कोयले का अधिक उत्पादन हुआ था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितना अधिक ;

(ग) उपभोक्ताओं, कारखानों तथा विद्युत प्रजनन केन्द्रों के सामने आये कोयले के संकट को दूर करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं और इस दिशा में उठाये गये कदमों के क्या फल निकले हैं ; और

(घ) क्या सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में उद्योगों तथा रेल मंत्रालय से सहयोग लेने का प्रयास किया है ?

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र): (क) और (ख). नवम्बर, 1978 और दिसम्बर, 1978 में कोयले का उत्पादन क्रमशः 81.91 लाख टन तथा 91.68 लाख टन था जबकि अप्रैल, 1978 में यह उत्पादन 78.48 लाख टन रहा था।

(ग) और (घ). सितम्बर, 1978 में हुई भारी वर्षा से बंगाल, बिहार कोयला क्षेत्र को बाढ़ ग्रस्त लगभग सभी खानों से पानी हटा दिए जाने के कारण उत्पादन बढ़ना शुरू हो गया है।

अब 1-11-78 के 9.87 मि० टन खान मुहाना स्टाक की तुलना में इस समय खान मुहाना स्टाक लगभग 12 मिलियन टन है। वैगनों की सप्लाई में सुधार के लिए रेलवे के साथ घनिष्ठ सम्पर्क रखा जा रहा है। वैगनों की दैनिक औसत लदान अक्टूबर, 78 में लादे गए 8283 वैगनों की तुलना में जनवरी, 1979 में बढ़कर 9245 वैगन हो गई है तथा इस संख्या में और भी वृद्धि होने की आशा है। रेल परिवहन की कमी को पूरा करने की दृष्टि से सड़क से कोयला ले जाने की अनुमति दे दी गई है। उद्योगपतियों की कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिए सभी संभव प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।

सिनेमा के दृश्यों में हिंसा

28. श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देश में हिंसा का वातावरण उत्पन्न करने, जीवन के मूल्यों को गिराने, फैशन का उन्माद बढ़ाने और युवकों पर बुरा प्रभाव डालने के मामले में सिनेमा ने सभी रिकार्ड तोड़ दिये हैं।

(ख) क्या सिनेमा के दृश्यों को देखने से चोरी, डकैती और हत्या के मामलों में वृद्धि होती है तथा वर्तमान वातावरण को सभी प्रकार से दूषित करने में सिनेमा एक मुख्य कारण है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने सिनेमा को शिक्षा, सद्भावना, मनोरंजन और मानव मूल्यों को विकसित करने के माध्यम के रूप में उपयोग करने के बारे में कोई कार्यवाही की है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो ऐसी कार्यवाही करने में विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) (क) और (ख). इस देश में सिनेमा का हिंसा, जुर्म, आदि से नैमित्तिक सम्बन्ध के बारे में कोई वैज्ञानिक अध्ययन नहीं किया गया है ; अतः इस प्रकार का निष्कर्ष नहीं निकाला जा सकता।

(ग) और (घ). भारत में फिल्म उद्योग निजी क्षेत्र में है और फिल्मों के निर्माण पर इस रूप में सरकार का कोई नियंत्रण नहीं है। तथापि, सभी फिल्में फिल्म सेंसर बोर्ड द्वारा चलचित्र अधिनियम, 1952 के प्रावधानों और इसके अन्तर्गत जनवरी, 1978 में जारी किए गए मार्गदर्शी सिद्धान्तों के अनुसार जांची जाती हैं। इन मार्गदर्शी सिद्धान्तों के अनुसार बोर्ड को यह सुनिश्चित करना होता है कि हिंसा, अशिष्टता, अश्लीलता और भ्रष्टता के ऐसे असंयत दृश्य नहीं हो जिनसे मानविक संवेदनशीलता क्षुब्ध हो।

फिल्म प्रभाग, बम्बई भी डाकुमैंट्री फिल्में बनाता है जो सूचनाप्रद और शैक्षिक महत्व वाली होती हैं। फिल्म वित्त निगम कलात्मक उत्कृष्टता वाली फिल्मों को निर्माण के लिए ऋण प्रदान करता है और इस प्रकार अच्छी फिल्मों के विकास को बढ़ावा देता है। इस प्रयोजन के लिए वित्त निगम का कोष बढ़ाने के लिए भी कदम उठाए गए हैं।

Super Thermal Power Station at Kahalgaon

29. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Bihar has approached the Union Government to sanction a project for setting up a super thermal power station at Kahalgaon; and

(b) the time by when it is likely to be sanctioned and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Bihar State Electricity Board have submitted a Project Feasibility Report for the establishment of a Thermal Power Station with an installation of six units of 500 MW each at Kahalgaon to the Central Electricity Authority. The Project Feasilility Report has been examined by the Central Electricity Authority, who have sought clarifications on several technical and economic aspects necessary for completing the techno-economic appraisal. The sanction and starting of the project would depend on the completion of the techno-economic apprlasal and indentification of resources.

Appointment of Committee to Investigate into large profits made by Drug Firms

30. SHRI BASANT SINGH KAHISA:
SHRI G. S. THOHRA:
SHRI DURGA CHAND:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have appointed a Committee to carry out an investigation into allegations of unduly large profits being made by multinationals engaged in drugs manufacture;

(b) if so, what are the names of the Multinations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, sir, Government constituted a Committee on 2nd May, 1978 to carry out investigation into the allegations of unduly large profits by foreign Companies and suggest measures, where appropriate, to regulate the profits of foreign companies.

(b) A statement giving names of 49 drug Companies which fall within the purview of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 and which would be covered by the study is attached.

(c) The Committee have sent a questionaire to the Companies referred to in (b) above to elicit relevant information from them. While twenty eight Companies have replied to the questionaire of which six have replied only part, twentyone companies have yet to respond.

LIST OF COMPANIES

1. M/s. Abbot Labs.
2. M/s. Boots Company.
3. M/s. Ciba-Geigy.
4. M/s. Cyanamid.
5. M/s. Duphar-Interfran.
6. M/s. E. Merck.
7. M/s. Glaxo Labs.
8. M/s. Hoechst Pharmaceuticals.
9. M/s. Martin and Harris.
10. M/s. May & Baker.
11. M/s. C. E. Fulford.
12. M/s. UNI-UCB.
13. M/s. Curewell-India.
14. M/s. Whiffeno-India.
15. M/s. Geoffery Manners.
16. M/s. Beecham India.
17. M/s. Bache-Products.
18. M/s. Symbiotica.
19. M/s. Carter Wallace.

20. M/s. John Wyeth & Bros.
21. M/s. Merck, Sharpe & Dehme.
22. M/s. Burroughs Wellcome.
23. M/s. Bayer.
24. M/s. Wyeth Labs.
25. M/s. Parke-Davis.
26. M/s. Pfizer.
27. M/s. Warner-Hindustan.
28. M/s. I. L. Morroson, Sen Jones.
29. M/s. Anglo French.
30. M/s. Sandoz.
31. M/s. Alkali & Chemicals Corporation of India Ltd.
32. M/s. Nicholas of India.
33. M/s. Richardson Hindustan.
34. M/s. Reckitt & Colman.
35. M/s. Ethnor.
36. M/s. Griffen labs.
37. M/s. Indian Schering.
38. M/s. Rallis India.
39. M/s. Smith, Kline and French.
40. M/s. U.S. Vitamins and Pharmaceuticals.
41. M/s. Boehringer-Knoll.
42. M/s. Johnson and Johnson.
43. M/s. Suhrid Geigy.
44. M/s. Copper Labs.
45. M/s. Organon.
46. M/s. Uni-sankyo.
47. M/s. MIT Labs.
48. M/s. G. W. Carnick.
49. M/s. Searle India.

कोयले का मूल्य

31. श्री यादवेन्द्र दत्त :
श्री भारत सिंह चौहान :
श्री श्याम लाल धुर्वे :

क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :—

(क) क्या सरकार कोयले के मूल्य बढ़ाने के प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस मूल्य वृद्धि के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार कोयले के मूल्य बढ़ाने के बजाय किन्हीं अन्य तरीकों से घाटे को पूरा करने के लिए कार्यवाही करेगी ?

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री खनेश्वर मिश्र): (क) से (ग) कोयले की कीमतों में संशोधन करने के सम्बन्ध में एक प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है।

Air Force Accidents in 1978

32. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents/plane crashes the Indian Air Force have met with during the calendar year 1978 indicating the broad outlines of each accident;

(b) whether any Inquiry Commission has been set up to investigate into the causes of such accidents; and

(c) if so, what are their findings and what measures have Government taken or propose to take to avoid accidents in the Indian Air Force?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b). It will not be in the public interest to disclose the actual number or details of accidents suffered by the I.A.F. However, the accident rate per ten thousand hours of flying during the calendar year 1978 was 3.54.

Each accident is investigated by a Court of Inquiry comprising of specialist officers. The findings of the Courts of Inquiry are studied and suitable remedial measures are taken for the prevention of such accidents.

(c) It will not be in the public interest to disclose the details of findings of the Courts of Inquiry. However, the accident rate has shown a positive decline during the last five years.

Development of Goa Shipyard

33. SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Naval Shipyard at Bombay has reached saturation point is there any proposal to develop Goa Shipyard to build and repair naval vessels; and

(b) has any recommendation been made by Goa Shipyard in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) and (b). There is no Naval Shipyard at Bombay. The Naval Dockyard at Bombay which carries out repairs to naval ships is being modernised and expanded. Goa Shipyard has been progressively modernised and expanded since it become a Public Sector Undertaking. It is now building small naval vessels and can also repair such vessels.

Number of Villages Electrified

34. SHRI C. R. MAHATA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified so far in West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Assam;

(b) the number of villages proposed to be electrified during the coming years, State-wise figures; and

(c) the number of villages so far not electrified, State-wise figures?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). The position in regard to the electrification of villages is as follows:—

Name of the State	Total number of villages	Number of villages electrified as on 31-12-78	Number of villages which still remain to be electrified.
West Bengal	38,074	11,964	26,110
U.P.	1,12,561	35,564	76,997
Bihar	67,566	18,856	48,710
Assam	21,995	2,472	19,523

The programme of electrification of villages in coming years has not yet been finalised.

Hot Dip Tinning Lines in Rourkela closed

35. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that all the six hot dip tinning lines of the Rourkela steel plant are now closed and two of them have since been dismantled;

(b) is it a fact that these HDTLS are part of the cold rolling mills and are meant for making tin plates;

(c) is it a fact that tin plates produced in Rourkela HDTLS were good-quality and had ready market and due to this Tata's tin plate producing company of Jamshedpur lost a big part of this market; and

(d) if so, what is the reason for closing the hot dip tinning lines in Rourkela and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) All the 6 Hot Dip Tinning Lines of the Rourkela Steel Plant installed at 1 MT Stage have been closed and 3 of these lines have since been dismantled.

(b) 6 Hot Dip Tinning Lines were part of cold rolling mill complex and were meant for making Hot Dip Tin plates.

(c) and (d). The closing down of Hot Dip Tinning lines had nothing to do whatsoever with the Tin Plate Company of India, Jamshedpur. These lines with a capacity of 50,000 tonnes per year were installed in the initial stage of the Rourkela Steel Plant. When the plant was expanded to the capacity of 1.8 m.t./year, Electrolytic Tinning Line with a capacity of 1,50,000 tonnes/year was also installed there. The consumption of tin in Hot Dip process was of the order of 17—19 kg./tonne against 5—7 kg./tonne in Electrolytic process. The working of the technically outdated Hot Dip process had, therefore, become uneconomical nad these lines had to be abandoned in favour of the Electrolytic line installed at Rourkela Steel Plant itself.

Exploitation of Minerals for Soil Conservation

36. SHRI P. KANNAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be leased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of mineral deposits have been found in Bihar with the property of counteracting alkalinity in soil; and

(b) if so, particulars of plans if any for exploitation of the minerals in the interest of soil conservation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Minerals like pyrite and gypsum are reported to be used for counteracting alkalinity in soil. Pyrite is found in Amjhore area of Shahabad District, Bihar, where a reserve of 20.80 million tonnes has been estimated. Workable deposits of gypsum are not reported in Bihar.

(b) Government has taken up a centrally sponsored scheme for reclamation of alkali soil, which is presently being implemented in Punjab, Haryana and U.P. Under this scheme pyrite already being mined in Bihar is used for reclamation of alkali soils in U.P.

Underutilisation of Refineries

37. SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be leased to state:

(a) the extent and period for which the capacity of refineries in our country, particularly Madras refineries was under utilised because of inadequate inflow of crude oil due to Iran disturbances;

(b) the losses caused to the economy as a result; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to overcome the supply shortage?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) About 1.17 million tonnes of crude was planned to be uplifted from Iran during November and December 1978 against which the actual upliftment was only .216 million tonnes due to disturbances in Iran affecting crude supplies from end of October, 1978. This shortfall in availability of Iranian crudes was made up by additional crude purchases from Iraq to the extent of 0.8 million tonnes approximately during November and December 1978.

As regards Madras Refineries Limited crude runs since April 1978 during pre-Iran problem period and post Iran problem period is given below, which indicates that crude runs at Madras Refineries Ltd. has been maintained as close to normal as possible:-

'000 tonnes

	Pre-Iran problem period	Post Iran problem period
April . .	236·5	
May . .	231·0	
June .	233·5	
July . .	243·3	
August . .	247·0	
September .	234·1	
October .	218·6	
November .		229·5
December .		202·0
January . .		244·2

(b) Inspite of the almost total dislocation from Iran from end October, 1978 it has been possible to maintain the crude runs more or less at the planned level in various coastal refineries including Madras Refineries Limited. However, there has been a total loss of crude runs during November/December 1978 of approximately 1,24,000 tonnes due to re-scheduling of tankers, shortage of tanker tonnes etc. which can be attributed to Iran situation.

(c) The following steps have been taken to ensure continuance of refinery operations consequent to disruption of crude supplies from Iran.

(a) Available crudes from non-Iran sources were re-allocated to various refineries including M.R.L. to keep the refineries operating at more or less the planned crude intakes.

(b) Part of the shortfall in availability was made up by dipping inventories.

(c) To reduce the loss of available tonnage a very close watch was maintained on tankers nominated for lifting Iran crudes, which were held up there due to uncertainty of loading, and were diverted to other ports for loading viewing the situation on day-to-day basis.

(d) Spot parcels of crude were obtained from Iraq from November onwards.

(e) For 1979 contracts for increased supply were entered into with UAE and Iraq.

(f) An additional supply of about 80,000 tonnes of crude oil was obtained from Qatar Petroleum Company for March, 1979.

(g) Further efforts are on to obtain additional crude from Saudi Arabia, U.S.S.R., Libya, Nigeria, Indonesia etc.

Import of Scrap for Mini Steel Plants

38. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to import large quantities of scrap to meet the requirements of mini steel plants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) In view of the shortage of indigenous steel melting scrap likely to be faced by the mini steel plants, the Government has taken steps to encourage its import to fill the gap between demand and supply.

(b) It has been recently estimated by a Committee appointed by the Government, which included representatives of ISSAI (Iron and Steel Scrap Association of India) and SFAI (Steel Furnace Association of India) that the yearly production of indigenous scrap is just sufficient for production of 1.7 million tonnes of liquid metal by the Electric Arc Furnace Units (mini steel plants). The production of mini steel plants has been rising and it was about 54 per cent higher during the period April, 1978 to January 1979 when compared to the same period in 1977-78. It is expected that the mini steel plants will cross the level of 2 million tonnes of liquid metal production during 1978-79. To continue production at such a high level by these plants, it is necessary to supplement the indigenous availability of scrap by imports. The import of ferrous melting scrap is canalised through the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited, a subsidiary of Steel Authority of India Limited. To make its use economic for the mini steel plants, the import of ferrous melting scrap (other than heavy melting scrap) has been exempted from payment of countervailing excise duty with effect from January 1, 1979 to June 30, 1979. The canalising agency has also agreed to issue no objection certificates, limited to 25 per cent of the licensed capacity of the unit, for direct import of the ferrous melting scrap (other than heavy melting scrap) by the mini steel plants subject to price clearance and other procedures being followed. This suggestion is being processed.

सातवें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह पर हुआ व्यय और उससे अर्जित आय

40. श्री हरगोविन्द वर्मा: क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सातवें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह पर कुल कितना व्यय हुआ और उससे कितनी आय हुई ;

(ख) यह आय और व्यय छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह पर हुए व्यय और उससे हुई आय से कितनी अधिक अथवा कम है ; और

(ग) यदि व्यय अधिक और आय कम हुई हो तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) :

(क) समारोह पर हुए व्यय और उससे अर्जित राजस्व के वास्तविक आंकड़ों का पता व्यय के सभी बिलों के प्राप्त होने और राजस्व के, टिकटों के अलावा, अन्य विविध स्रोतों से पूर्णतया वसूल होने के बाद ही चलेगा। तथापि प्रारम्भिक प्राक्कलन इस प्रकार है :—

अनुमानित व्यय : 39.00 लाख रुपए।

अनुमानित राजस्व : 30.70 लाख रुपए।

(ख) : 7वें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह का अनुमानित व्यय और आय छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के व्यय और आय से क्रमश: 7.34 लाख रुपये और 34.86 लाख रुपए कम हैं।

(ग) : छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह की तुलना में 7वें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय समारोह से हुई कम आय के कुछ कारण इस प्रकार हैं :—

(1) 7वें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह में प्रविष्ट फिल्मों की कुल संख्या फिल्मों का उच्च स्तर सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सीमित कर दी गई थी। छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के दौरान दिखाई गई 300 फिल्मों

की तुलना में 7वें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के दौरान दिखाई गई फिल्मों की संख्या भारतीय पनोरमा की फिल्मों को छोड़कर, लगभग 140 रखी गई।

(2) छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के दौरान फिल्मों के सार्वजनिक प्रदर्शन के लिए लिए गए 14 सिनेमाघरों की तुलना में 7वें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के दौरान केवल 10 सिनेमाघर ही लिए गए।

(3) छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के दौरान 5/- रुपए 10/- रुपए 15/- रु0 और 25/- रुपए वाले टिकटों की तुलना में 7वें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के दौरान 5/- रुपए, 10/- रुपए 15/- रुपए और 20/- रुपए वाले टिकट थे।

(4) छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के दौरान टिकटों की अन्धाधुन्ध बिक्री हुई थी जिससे लोगों को समारोह के टिकट परिकल्पना से खरीदने पड़े। तथापि, 7वें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के दौरान जन साधारण के लिए टिकटों की बिक्री विभिन्न सिनेमाघरों पर प्रदर्शन कार्यक्रम की गणना के बाद शुरू की गई। गुणवत्ता फिल्मों के प्रति विशेषकर ऊँची दरों वाले टिकटों में जनता की रुचि अधिक नहीं थी।

Loss incurred by Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.

41. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Anti-Biotics Limited (HA) has slipped into a state of sickness since 1973-74;

(b) if so, furnish details of year-wise losses incurred since 1973-74 to 1977-78 and the estimated for 1978-79;

(c) whether Government propose to appoint a high level committee to look into the working of the major public sector undertakings which are running in losses with a view to identify the factors contributing to the continuously increasing losses; and

(d) if so, furnish details thereof; details of the steps taken/proposed to improve the working of Hindustan Anti-Biotics and other such Units running in losses?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) and (b). Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL) have been incurring losses since 1973-74. The net loss since 1973-74 are furnished below:—

Year	Loss (Rs. lakhs)
1973-74	148·21
1974-75	327·96
1975-76	291·65
1976-77	67·74
1977-78	222·25
1978-79	360·78 (Estimated)

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The following measures to meet the working of the company are being considered:

(i) Expansion of capacities for the manufacture of bulk drugs and formulations including rehabilitation of Vitamin 'C' Plant.

(ii) Replacement of existing old equipment which have not been replaced for a number of years.

(iii) Introduction of modern management techniques, systems approach for plant preventive maintenance, production planning and control, man-power planning, rationalisation in deployment of man-power, training etc.

(iv) Expansion of marketing activities to penetrate the trade market and reduce dependence on institutional sales.

(v) Restructuring of Capital Structure. No other public sector unit manufacturing drugs is incurring losses at present.

Concessional Tickets issued during recent International Film Festival

42. SHRI S. R. REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROACASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any concessional tickets were issued to some distinguished persons by the Ministry in connection with International Film Festival which took place recently in the Capital;

(b) whether some free passes were also issued in favour of some M.Ps. and Journalists; and

(c) if so, the number and names of such personalities?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). As no Press Shows were held for films screened in the retrospective section Archna Theatre, some free passes in the shape of complimentary tickets were made available to film critics accredited to the Film Festival as a professional and functional facility. A list of accredited firm critics to whom such passes were issued is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3263/79.] No such free passes were issued in favour of M.Ps.

Proposals for take over of TISCO/HINDALCO

43. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to take over the Tata Iron and Steel Company and/or the Hindustan Aluminium Company;

(b) whether any proposal in this regard was considered at any stage; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the take over or giving up that proposal as the case may be?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: (a) to (c). Suggestions have been received from time to time for the take-over by Government of TISCO and HINDALCO but the matter is still under consideration.

Indian Oil Corporation's Plans to increase supply of Cooking Gas and scheme for Development of Southern Part of Balol-Santhal Oilfield, Gujarat

44. SRI CHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government have approved the Indian Oil Corporation's plans to increase the supply of cooking gas and the scheme of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission to develop the southern part of the Balol-Santhal oilfield in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details regarding this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have recently approved the proposal of the Indian Oil

Corporation Limited which envisages the enrolment of 17.5 lakh new domestic customers for liquified petroleum gas (cooking gas) besides other commercial and industrial consumers. This additional enrolment will be possible because of additional availability of LPG from Mathura refinery, commissioning of secondary processing facilities at Koyali and the Coker Unit at Bongaigaon refinery. This plan also envisages establishment of bottling plants and the necessary marketing facilities.

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission's scheme approved by Government envisages the development of Southern part of Balol-Santhal oil field in Gujarat at an estimated capital expenditure of Rs. 17.50 crores. The scheme involves drilling of 76 development wells in the area and will give a production rate of 0.35 million tonnes per annum from the field by 1981-82. The crude oil will be supplied to the Koyali refinery.

Appointment of Managing and Whole Time Directors in Public Limited Companies

45. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government continues to exercise their power of disapproval of managing and whole time Directors in public limited companies in spite of the specific recommendations of the Sachar Committee not to exercise the power;

(b) what are the grounds on which appointments are now being disapproved;

(c) whether it is a fact that such decisions are taken on the basis of Inspection Reports which are not legally proved findings and which are ordered only in the case of some companies; and

(d) whether Government have laid down any universally applicable standards, which must be applied in every subsequent case, to avoid charges of discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSAN): (a) and (b). According to existing policy, Government approval is required under Section 269 of the Companies Act, 1956 for the appointment/reappointment of Managing Directors and whole time Directors of public limited companies. Sub-section (3) of section 269 specifically provides that the Central Government shall not accord its approval unless it is satisfied that (i) it is in the interests of the company to have a Managing or whole Time Directors, (ii) the proposed Managing or Whole-Time-Director of the company is, in its opinion, *a fit and proper person* to be appointed as such and that the appointment of such person as Managing or Whole Time Director is not against the public interest, and (iii) the terms and conditions of the appointment of the proposed Managing or Whole Time Director of the company are fair and reasonable. The Sachar Committee has made certain recommendations relating to the appointment and reappointment of the managerial personnel which are under consideration.

(c) and (d). The proposals of the companies are examined in the light of the report of the Registrar of Companies which contains information about complaints, if any, received against the management and the inspection, if any, that may have been carried out of the books of account and the follow up action taken thereon. These data are relevant for considering if the person proposed for appointment is 'fit and proper' and if the appointment of such a person is not likely to be against the public interest. Each case has to be considered on its merits and it is not practicable to lay down universally applicable standards.

Shortage of Diesel in Punjab

46. SHRI *BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to staate:

(a) what is the annual rate of increase of diesel consumption in the State of Punjab;

(b) is this increase much more compared to the national figures;

(c) what are the details of supply of diesel to the State of Punjab during the months of September, October, November and December 1977 and during the same period in the year 1978 (please state monthwise);

(d) if there was imbalance, did he receive representation and complaints bringing to his notice the acute shortage of diesel in that State due to unfavourable gap between the demand and supply of diesel; and

(e) what steps had been and are being taken to ease the diesel shortage in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) (b). The growth rate of diesel consumption during 1977-78 in Punjab was 12 per cent as against the all India growth rate of 8.9 per cent. During the period April-December, 1978, the growth rate was about 10 per cent as against the all India growth rate of 10.9 per cent.

(c) The details of supply of diesel in Punjab during the months of September to December in the year 1977 and 1978, are as under:-

Figs. in '000 MTs.

	1977	1978
September	35.1	54.4
October	54.6	51.6
November	58.7	54.1
December	42.4	49.2 (Provisional
	181.8	200.3

(d) During the months of November and December 1978 problems of availability of diesel in North-west India including Punjab were faced due to low stocks at depot locations and transportation constraints. Representations and complaints were received as regards these problems.

(e) To improve product availability at the consuming locations the following steps have been taken:-

(i) Close liaison was maintained with Railways in order to maximise despatch of diesel to the depot locations in Punjab;

(ii) Special officers were nominated by the oil companies jointly for each State capital including Punjab to keep the State Governments fully advised of the situation so that equitable distribution of the production be ensured;

(iii) the State Government also took steps for ensuring equitable distribution of the product; and

(iv) the State Government was requested to take necessary steps against hoarding and black marketing of the product by unscrupulous elements.

As a result of these steps; there was gradual improvement in availability of diesel in Punjab.

Demand of Steel

47. SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the analysis of the demands for steel during the last two years and the current year;

(b) the extent to which the demands have been met; and

(c) particulars of steps taken to reorient distribution so as to ensure equity and to prevent malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Domestic demand for steel has shown a growth in the last three years. In the current financial year it is expected to be about 15 per cent over that of the previous year.

(b) The gap between the indigenous production and the demand is met through imports.

(c) Appropriate guidelines have been issued to the producers to ensure equitable distribution. These are also constantly under review. In order to prevent malpractices Clause 7 of the Iron and Steel (Control) Order has been imposed in respect of certain scarce categories of steel.

Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Indian Oil Corporation

48. SHRI K. KUNHAMBU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the grade of Rs. 3000 and above in the Indian Oil Corporation;

(b) whether it is a fact that no reservation is being given to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Indian Oil Corporation; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) At present there are only three officers in the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) in the grade of Rs. 3000/- and above. None of them belongs to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes communities.

(b) In respect of other posts IOC follow the instructions contained in the Presidential Directives issued to the Corporation from time to time in the matter of reservations for recruitment/promotions for person belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes communities.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposal to provide relief in Prices of Petroleum

49. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps before the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting countries (OPEC) to provide relief from recent rise in petroleum prices announced by them;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have taken or contemplate any joint action with non-aligned and developing countries in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (c). India has tried in the past to impress upon the Oil Producing and Exporting Countries the need for adequate differential and remedial measures to protect the interests of oil importing developing countries against rises in oil prices. The question of oil prices was also an issue under consideration at the discussions in the Conference on International Economic Cooperation held in Paris, OPEC have, however, not agreed to the concept of

having a differential prices for the oil importing developing countries.

The likely impact of the recent increase in crude prices on the oil importing developing countries was discussed recently in the meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries. A dialogue with OPEC Countries in regard to measures to alleviate the hardships imposed on the developing countries is now expected to be initiated.

Meeting of Indo-Iraq Joint Commission

50. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the meeting of the Indo-Iraq joint Commission held recently in Baghdad; and

(b) how for the gap created by the disruption of the Iranian Oil supplies has been made up?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) The major areas of cooperation which came up for detailed examination, at the fifth session of the Indo-Iraq Joint Commission, were trade, technical and cultural coperation, transport and services, industrial cooperation and consultancy and agriculture and irrigation. New areas for enhancing mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries in these fields were identified.

(b) Iraq has agreed to increase supplies of crude oil to India during 1979. A contract for the supply of 5.5 million tonnes has been entered into. Iraq has also agreed to make best endeavour to supply an additional quantity of one million tonnes during the year. The increased supplies from Iraq will help to meet partly the gap created by the disruption in supplies from Iran. However import requirements of about 4.5 million tonnes still remain to be firmed up.

Agreement between Italian Manufacturers and IDPL to set up Anti-biotic Plants

51. SHRI SHANKER SINHJI VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Farmafin, a consortium of Italian manufacturers, had under an agreement with the IDPL in 1974 pledged to supply improved strains and technology for six antibiotics, some of which are entirely imported, to be produced at the IDPL's Rishikesh plant;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Italian firm Farmafin, has announced that it is winding up its business;

(c) the effects of this decision of Farmafin on the production of IDPL; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard and have the Farmafin been asked not to terminate the collaboration agreement unilaterally?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) IDPL signed an agreement with M/s. Farmafin of Italy on 6th December, 1976 for the supply of high yielding strains and technical know-how with basic engineering for the production of Penicillin G-Potassium salt, tetracycline, erythromycin and technical know-how with basic engineering for Doxycycline hyclate and semi-synthetic penicillins. Except Doxycycline hyclate the rest are to be produced at the IDPL's Rishikesh plant.

(b) Government have seen a recent Press Report that Farmafin has announced that it is winding up its business.

(c) IDPL have been assured that the running contractual commitments with them under the Agreement would be completed.

(d) Does not arise.

More Courts and Judges to avoid delays in Court Proceedings

52. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more courts and more judges are needed to tackle the problem of delay in court proceedings; and

(b) if so, the number of new courts and judges Government propose to avoid delay in this regard, State-wise, during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A substantial number of vacancies in the High Courts have been filled up. Additional posts of Judges have been created in the last two years in the following High Courts:

Name of the High Court	Posts created Pmt.	Addl.
Allahabad	..	9
Madhya Pradesh	..	6
Karnataka	1	5
Himachal Pradesh	..	2
Patna	..	3
Rajasthan	..	1
Delhi	..	4
Madras	3	..
TOTAL	4	30
GRAND TOTAL		34

Proposals for more posts in other High Courts will be considered as and when received.

In so far as the subordinate judiciary is concerned, the creation of more courts is the concern of the States. However, keeping in view the revenues available with the States, the Seventh Finance Commission has recommended grants aggregating rupees 24 crores for the establishment of 538 additional criminal and civil courts in certain States as detailed in the attached Statement.

Statement

NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL COURTS RECOMMENDERD BY THE FINANCE COMMISSION

Name of the State	CRIMINAL COURTS		CIVIL COURTS	
	Lower	Higher	Lower	Higher
Andhra Pradesh	10	..	5	4
Assam	14	2	26	—
Bihar	85*	33	14	1
Himachal Pradesh	2	..	..	—
Jammu & Kashmir	2	..	..	—
Kerala	..	2	..	..
Madhya Pradesh	4	1	..	2
Manipur	7	..	..	..
Meghalaya	..	..	..	—
Nagaland	—	..	..	—
Orissa	12	7	.	
Rajasthan	27	7	12	
Tamil Nadu	4	..	..	..
Tripura	2	..	3	7
Uttar Pradesh	84*	48*	—	..
West Bengal	46*	3	51*	7
	299	103	111	25

*Phased in 2 years.

गणतन्त्र दिवस की परेड के लिए टिकट जारी करना

53. श्री राम विलास पासवान :
श्री जी० वाई० कृष्णन :
श्री एल० एस० सोमानी :

क्या उप प्रधान मंत्री तथा रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 26 जनवरी, को गणतंत्र दिवस समारोह को देखने के लिए विभिन्न श्रेणियों के टिकट जारी करने के प्रबन्ध किये गये थे ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो एक राष्ट्रीय समारोह को देखने के लिए मूल्य वाले पास जारी करने का क्या औचित्य है ?

उप प्रधान मंत्री तथा रक्षा मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : (क) और (ख). आज की तुलना में 1973 तक गणतंत्र दिवस समारोह को देखने के लिए अपेक्षाकृत अधिक निमंत्रण पत्र जारी किए जाते थे। उस समय टिकट लगाने की कोई प्रथा नहीं थी। इस पद्धति में परिवर्तन 1973 और 1974 में किया गया। नियंत्रण पत्रों के हकदार वर्गों के अलावा अधिकारियों और गैर-अधिकारियों को तदर्थ अथवा स्वैच्छिक आधार पर निमंत्रण पत्र दे दिए जाने के बावजूद शेष उपलब्ध सीटों को टिकट लगा कर आम जनता के लिए उपलब्ध कराने का निर्णय किया गया। टिकट वाले कुछ ही ब्लाक होते हैं जबकि इनकी तुलना में आम जनता के लिए कहीं अधिक निशुल्क ब्लाक होते हैं। वास्तव में जनता का एक बड़ा भाग परेड और इस समारोह को निशुल्क देखता है। यह योजना वित्तीय विचार से नहीं बल्कि स्वेच्छिक आधार पर निमंत्रण पत्र दिए जाने की पहल वाली प्रथा की संभावित शिकायतों को दूर करने के उद्देश्य से शुरू की गई थी। सबसे कम मूल्य वाला टिकट 2 रु० का है और यह कीमत नाम-मात्र की है। इस योजना का सामान्यतया स्वागत किया गया है।

बिहार, पश्चिम बंगाल तथा उड़ीसा की कोयला खानों में खनन कार्य का निलम्बन

54. श्री मृत्युंजय प्रसाद : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिजली में बार-बार फेल हो जाने के कारण 1 जनवरी, 1978 से 31 जनवरी, 1979 तक की अवधि के दौरान बिहार, पश्चिम बंगाल तथा उड़ीसा की कोयला खानों में खनन कार्य घंटों तक निलम्बित रहा ;

(ख) गत 13 महीनों में खान-वार कितनी बार इस प्रकार निलम्बन किया गया और खान प्राधिकारियों द्वारा इस सम्बन्ध में कितनी बार शिकायतें की गईं ;

(ग) बार-बार इस प्रकार बिजली के फेल हो जाने के क्या कारण हैं और उपचारात्मक उपाय किए गए हैं ;

(घ) उन उद्योगों के नाम क्या हैं जिन्हें अनियमित बिजली की सप्लाई के कारण धक्का पहुंचा और जिनके उत्पादन में कमी हुई है ?

. . . . .

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र) (क) और (ख) यह सच है कि अक्सर बिजली फेल हो जाने से बंगाल और पश्चिम बंगाल में खनन कार्य घंटों बन्द रहता है। जनवरी, 78 से जनवरी, 79 तक के कम्पनीवार आंकड़े संलग्न विवरण पत्र में दिए गए हैं ऐसे व्यवधान लगातार विद्युत प्राधिकारियों के ध्यान में लाए जाते हैं।

(ग) बिजली फेल होने के मुख्य कारण इस प्रकार हैं :— इन राज्यों में अपर्याप्त निर्धारित क्षमता, अपर्याप्त प्रेषण और वितरण प्रणाली के कारण व्यवधान तथा ताप बिजली घरों पर बिजली का बहुत अधिक बलात् आउट होना। इन राज्यों में वर्तमान बिजलीघरों के निष्पादन में सुधार के लिए कदम उठाए गए हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त, बिजली की बढ़ती हुई मांग को पूरा करने की दृष्टि से अधिक बिजली उत्पादन क्षमता के लिए कदम उठाए गए हैं। प्रेषण और वितरण प्रणाली को सुगठित और नियमित बना कर बिजली फेल होने की कठिनाइयों को कम करने के लिए भी कदम उठाए गए हैं। आशा है कि इन उठाए गए कदमों के फलस्वरूप बिजली की स्थिति में काफी सुधार हो सकेगा।

(घ) संभव है कि बिजली की कमी के कारण औद्योगिक उत्पादन में खासतौर से इन राज्यों के कुछ ऐसे उद्योगों के उत्पादन में जिनमें बिजली का अधिक उपयोग किया जाता है—कमी हुई हो ये उद्योग हैं कास्टिक सोडा, सीमेंट, आदि। किन्तु इसके अलावा कुछ अन्य बातें भी हैं—जैसे औद्योगिक अशान्ति, कच्चे माल की कमी, आदि जिनकी वजह से भी औद्योगिक उत्पादन में कमी हो सकती है।

विवरण पत्र

महीने	ई० को० लि०			भा० को० को० लि०			से० को० लि०		
	ड्रिफिंग	अवधि		ड्रिफिंग	अवधि		ड्रिफिंग	अवधि	
		घंटे	मी०		घंटे	मी०		घंटे	मी०
जनवरी, 78 .	235	84	17		7037	00*	*2334	*2058	12
फरवरी, 78 .	115	52	51		3398	00*	*2845	*845	26
मार्च, 78 .	138	50	14		5006	00*	*713	385	28
अप्रैल, 78 .	320	167	52	346	153	12	1013	518	25
मई, 78 .	300	164	10	238	101	30	1024	633	40
जून, 78 .	342	100	55	203	98	08	1083	630	01
जुलाई, 78 .	322	129	20	215	102	35	865	449	21
अगस्त, 78 .	247	143	16	206	105	14	783	353	01
सितम्बर, 78 .	253	122	57	201	85	49	1630	1007	49
अक्टूबर, 78 .	89	42	56	75	30	44	917	670	51
नवम्बर, 78 .	89	49	02	70	33	37	297	165	34
दिसम्बर, 78 .	162	76	00	75	67	02	1033	568	19
जनवरी, 79 .	168	80	13	126	58	02	694	544	31

*यह आंकड़े कोलियरियों में ड्रिफिंग के तथा कोलियरियों में बिजली फेल होने से कितनी हानि हुई इस बात के हैं।

Supplies of Defence materials by Private Industry

55. SHRI RAGAVALU MOHANRANGAM: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE
be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum and value of supplies of strategic defence material made by private industry during the last two years and the current year; and

(b) the results of the review made if any regarding the satisfactory nature of the equipment supplied by private industry from the point of view of quality, speed of delivery and requirements of secrecy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) Defence Stores procured from private industry mainly relate to raw materials, semi-processed items, components, sub-assemblies, spares, accessories etc., used in Defence Departmental Factories or by the Services. Their number is vast and varied and it would take considerable time and labour to compile information regarding their quantities. The value of such purchases effected directly by the organisations under the Ministry of Defence during the last two years and during the current year was, however, as follows:

	DGOF/ Departmental Factories (Rs. in crores)	Department of Defence Supplies
1976-77 . .	154·37	53·02
1977-78 . .	158·95	50·77
1978-79 (April-Sep.78)	52·00 (Provisional)	25·48

(b) Defence materials supplied by the Private Sector Industry are accepted only after rigorous inspection. The performance of the private sector firms is periodically reviewed and has been found to be generally satisfactory from the point of view of quality, speed of delivery and requirements of secrecy.

Prices of Fertilizers

56. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new fertilizer plants about to be commissioned during this year are entitled to a retention price 50 per cent higher than the existing average;

(b) whether the retention price in the fertilizer Industry is linked to the capital and other factors;

(c) if so, have Government decided to increase the fertilizer price or to stop up the fertilizer subsidy; and

(d) what corrective actions and controls have been planned to maintain fertilizer prices at a reasonable level preventing any further hike?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Retention prices payable for Urea to be produced by the new fertilizer projects likely to be commissioned in 1979 are higher than the existing weighted average retention price for Urea, ranging from 30 per cent to 50 per cent.

(b) Under the system of retention prices, the manufacturers are entitled to a post tax return of 12 per cent on the net worth based on their cost of production subject to a capacity utilisation of 80 per cent and fulfilment of the stipulated consumption norms. The cost of production is related to a variety of factors like capital cost of the project, cost of feedstock and inputs, consumption norms, maintenance expenditure, wages and salaries, etc.

(c) There is no decision to increase the prices of fertilizers. The liability

on account of payment of retention prices would be met from out of budgetary support provided for the purpose.

(d) The prices of fertilizers covered under the scheme of retention prices are under statutory control and the manufacturers are not free to resort to any price increase.

बिहार में स्पंज लोहे का कारखाना

57. **श्री विनायक प्रसाद यादव** : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार राज्य औद्योगिक विकास निगम ने रांची अथवा जमशेदपुर में स्पंज लोहे का एक कारखाना स्थापित करने की योजना बनाई थी और दो वर्ष पूर्व केंद्रीय सरकार के पास अनुमोदनार्थ भेजी थी ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि वर्तमान जनता सरकार ने बिहार राज्य की इस आधुनिक स्पंज लोहा योजना का अनुमोदन नहीं किया और बदले में उड़ीसा के क्योंझर नगर में स्पंज लोहा योजना पर कार्यवाही आरम्भ की ;

(ग) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उड़ीसा में क्योंझर स्पंज लोहा योजना का अनुमोदन किया जबकि बिहार राज्य की स्पंज लोहा उड़ीसा की इस योजना से बहुत पहिले मंत्रालय के पास अनुमोदनार्थ विचाराधीन पड़ी है ; और

(घ) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) से (ग) का उत्तर हां में है तो क्या सरकार बिहार की उक्त योजना का शीघ्र ही अनुमोदन करेगी और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कढ़िया मुण्डा) : (क) जी, नहीं। बिहार राज्य औद्योगिक विकास निगम लि० ने रांची में स्पंज लोहे के उत्पादन हेतु औद्योगिक लाइसेंस के लिए आवेदन केवल 9-1-1978 को किया था।

(ख) यह कहना ठीक न होगा कि सरकारने बिहार राज्य की योजना अनुमोदित नहीं की है अथवा उड़ीसा में स्पंज लोहे के उत्पादन के लिए एक नई योजना आरम्भ की है।

(ग) और (घ) : दि इंडस्ट्रीयल प्रोमोशन एण्ड इन्वेस्टमेंट का पोरेशन लि० उड़ीसा लि० ने स्पंज लोहे के उत्पादनार्थ औद्योगिक लाइसेंस के लिए अप्रैल 1977 में आवेदन-पत्र दिया था और अक्तूबर 1977 में उसे आशय-पत्र दे दिया गया था। बिहार के मुख्यमंत्री से अनुरोध किया गया है कि उड़ीसा की भांति वे भी पहले परियोजना में प्रतावित सहयोगियों से कार्य-निष्पादन के बारे में गारण्टी प्राप्त कर लें जिसके बाद आगे कार्यवाई की जाएगी।

कोयले की कमी का विद्युत प्रजनन पर प्रभाव

58. **श्री राजेन्द्र कुमार शर्मा** : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देश में कोयले की भारी कमी के कारण अनेक विद्युत केन्द्र बन्द कर दिए गए थे ;

(ख) क्या बहुत से विद्युत केन्द्रों के बन्द हो जाने से विद्युत प्रजनन पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ा था ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो गत तीन महीनों के दौरान बन्द कर दिए गए बड़े-बड़े विद्युत प्रजनन केन्द्रों की राजवार संख्या कितनी है; और

(घ) भविष्य में स्थिति सुधारने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है।

ऊर्जा मंत्री (श्री पी० रामचन्द्रन) (क) कोयले की कमी के कारण किसी भी विद्युत केन्द्र को बन्द नहीं करना पड़ा था। किन्तु देश के कुछ विद्युत् केन्द्रों पर कोयले के पर्याप्त भण्डार उपलब्ध न होने के कारण इन केन्द्रों को उत्पादन कम कर देना पड़ा था या अपनी कुछ यूनिटें बन्द कर देनी पड़ी थीं।

(ख) विद्युत् उत्पादन कुछ हद तक प्रभावित हुआ था।

(ग) कोयले की कमी के कारण, बड़े-बड़े ताप विद्युत् केन्द्रों की बन्दी की मात्रा और अवधि को दिखाने वाला विवरण संलग्न है।

(घ) विद्युत् केन्द्रों में कोयले की कमी के कारण जब कभी उत्पादन पर प्रभाव पड़ने की संभावना होती है रेलवे से तत्काल ही सप्लाई बढ़ाने के लिए अनुरोध किया जाता है। विभिन्न ताप विद्युत् केन्द्रों पर कोयले की स्थिति की समीक्षा करने के लिए रेलवे, विद्युत् कोयला विभाग तथा केन्द्रीय विद्युत् प्राधिकरण के प्रतिनिधियों की मानीटरिंग बैठक भी प्रतिदिन होती है।

विवरण

कोयले की कमी के कारण बड़े-बड़े ताप विद्युत् केन्द्रों को बन्दी की मात्रा और अवधि।

ताप विद्युत् केन्द्र का नाम	नवम्बर, 78	दिसम्बर, 78	जनवरी, 78
दिल्ली			
बवरपुर . .	—	—	100 मेगावाट (29 दिन)
उत्तर प्रदेश			
हरदुआगंज ख और ग	—	220 मेगावाट (1 दिन) 60 मेगावाट (3 दिन)	290 मेगावाट (3 दिन) 170 मगावाट (4 दिन) 60 मेगावाट (4 दिन)
मनकी पुराना .	—	—	32 मेगावाट (3 दिन)
मध्य प्रदेश			
अमरकंटक	. 120 मेगावाट (5 दिन)	—	—
गुजरात			
उकई/ गांधीनगर	—	—	कोयले की कमी के कारण उत्पादन कम करना पड़ा।

Increase in Prices of Coking Coal

59. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the price of coking coal for domestic purposes has increased by leaps and bounds; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to control the soaring price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The coal companies producing domestic soft coke have not increased its price.

(b) Does not arise.

Laying of Pipe Line from Bombay High to Gujarat

60. SHRI HITENDRA DESAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) decision Government have taken for laying of the pipe-line from Bombay High to a point in Gujarat; and

(b) when will the laying of the pipe line be completed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) A feasibility study on the gas pipeline to Gujarat had been made by ONGC. It further took up additional oceanopraphic and sea-bed investigations for exploring an alternate route to a landfall point in Gujarat. A report alongwith views of ONGC has been received by Government in January, 1979.

However, since the conducting of the studies/investigations by ONGC, the outlook for the availability of offshore gas has changed considerably for the better as a result of a significant gas strike North of North Bassein structure and the likelihood of large reserves in the South Bassein gas field. The estimation of ONGC is that free gas availability would be much larger than earlier estimated. A firm assessment of gas

supplies is being made by ONGC by drilling more wells and a clear picture is likely to emerge by March 1979. On knowing the precise estimates of gas supplies a review of the sizing and route of the pipeline will be made by ONGC and thereafter a further report will be submitted to Government.

On receipt of this report, a view on the economics, location, time schedule of completion etc. of the pipeline to Gujarat would be taken by Government. The time schedule of completion will, however, be so framed as to synchronise with the development of economic uses of gas in Gujarat.

(b) As explained in reply to part (a) above, the completion of pipeline will synchronise with the development of economic uses of gas in Gujarat.

Decision on Recommendations of Rajinder Sachar Committee

61. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a final decision on the various recommendations made by the Rajinder Sachar Committee on the Companies Act and the M.R.T.P. Act;

(b) if so, details of the decisions taken; and

(c) which recommendations of the above said Committee have been accepted for implementation and the progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) to (c). The various recommendations made by the Sachar Committee are under Government's active consideration and such of the recommendations as are accepted by Government will be implemented through an amending legislation in due course.

Coal requirements of Steel Industry and Percentage met by Imports

62. SHRI V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of coking coal needs for steel plants and the percentage met or proposed to be met by imports;

(b) the countries from which the imports have been arranged;

(c) whether it is proposed to have imports from China on a long-term basis; and

(d) if so, the safeguards taken to ensure uninterrupted supply in the face of uncertainties in relations between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) For the year 1978-79, the coking coal requirement of steel plants has been assessed at 16.68 million tonnes; out of this, about 1,50,000 tonnes or less than 1 per cent of the total requirement is likely to be met by imports;

(b) Australia and Canada;

(c) The possibilities in this regard are being explored;

(d) Does not arise at this stage.

Funds used by Companies to purchase Shares of other Companies

63. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a practice at present amongst the companies of using their funds for purchases of shares of other companies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that using funds of one company or purchasing shares of another company to gain control over it is one of the

instruments through which a few people control economic power, the funds of the second company are then utilised to gain control over a third company and this process continues; and

(c) whether Government are also aware of the practice of companies borrowing huge amounts from financial institutions and banks on the one hand and lending the funds to other people indirectly connected with the companies directors?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) and (b). The Government is aware that inter-corporate investment is an important instrument for gaining corporate control. Any proposal for purchase of controlling interest in any other company by registered/registerable undertakings under the MRTP Act, 1969 would require prior approval of the Central Government under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of that Act. In certain cases, such proposals may also require approval of the Central Government under Sections 108A and 372(4) of the Companies Act, 1956. Each case is considered on its merits in the light of the guiding principles contained in Section 28 of the MRTP Act, the Industrial Policy of the Government and other relevant considerations.

(c) Under Section 295 of the Companies Act, 1956 the prior approval of the Central Government is required in cases where public limited companies and the subsidiaries of such companies other than the Banking Companies, are to grant loan or to give guarantee or provide any security to any director, partner or relative of a director or firm in which such director or his relative is a partner and certain private companies and bodies corporate in which any director has any specified interest. The Government also ensures that the loan is granted only when the company has sufficient internally generated funds.

आकाशवाणी तथा दूरदर्शन के लिए न्यास की स्थापना करना

64. **श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री आकाशवाणी तथा दूरदर्शन के लिए न्यास के बारे में तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 54, दिनांक 22 नवम्बर, 1978 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि;

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार 1 अप्रैल से आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन के लिए न्यास का गठन करने का है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार का इस न्यास की स्थापना से पूर्व कार्यक्रम तैयार करने वाले अधिकारियों का एक संवर्ग बनाने का प्रस्ताव है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण अडवाणी) : (क) और (ख) : आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन के लिए स्वायत्तता सम्बन्धी कार्य दल की दोनों संगठनों के भावी ढांचे के बारे में सिफारिशों की विस्तृत जांच की जा रही है। इस सम्बन्ध में एक विधेयक संसद में इसके चालू सत्र के दौरान पेश किए जाने की सम्भावना है। नये ढांचे को स्थापित करने की तारीख का निर्णय विधेयक के कानून में अधिनियमित हो जाने के बाद लिया जाएगा।

(ग) : जी, नहीं।

(घ) : प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

आपातस्थिति के दौरान सेवानिवृत्त अधिकारियों की बहाली

65. **श्री टी० एल० मेंगी** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन के राजपत्रित अधिकारियों को समय से पूर्व सेवा निवृत्त किये जाने के बारे में 6 दिसम्बर, 1978 के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 2456 के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उपयुक्त प्रश्न में उल्लिखित राजपत्रित अधिकारियों को आपात स्थिति के दौरान ही बहाल कर दिया गया था;

(ख) इस समय ये अधिकारी किन किन पदों पर कार्य कर रहे हैं;

(ग) क्या इनमें से किसी अधिकारी को अधिलंघित किया गया है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो अधिलंघिन के क्या कारण है; और

(ङ) क्या कोई अधिकारी किसी ऐसे पद पर कार्य कर रहा है जहां उसे किसी वाणिज्यक अथवा व्यापारिक संस्था सें व्यवहार करना होता है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी): (क) आपातस्थिति के दौरान केवल एक ही अधिकारी 6 दिसम्बर, 1978 के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 2456 के उत्तर के साथ लगे विवरण में क्रम संख्या 7 पर उल्लिखित श्री बी०एस० कुमार को बहाल किया गया था। बाकी के छः अधिकारियों को आपातस्थिति के बाद बहाल किया गया है।

(ख) (1) श्री बी० एस० कुमार उप निदेशक (सम्पर्क) के पद में कार्य कर रहे हैं। (2) श्री सी० डी० वर्मा, प्रोग्राम एग्जीक्यूटिव, आकाशवाणी, लखनऊ का 17-8-1978 को देहान्त हो गया। (3) श्रीमती एम० आर० वेंकटरामन, आकाशवाणी महानिदेशालय, नई दिल्ली में निदेशक, कर्मचारी प्रशिक्षण संस्थान (कार्यक्रम) के रूप में कार्य कर रही हैं। (4) श्री एम० एम०ए० बैग 'सरोश' को अभी हाल ही में बहाल किया गया हैं। उनकी तैनाती का प्रश्न विचाराधीन है। (5) श्री गुलाम मोहिउद्दीन रेडियो काश्मीर, जम्मू में सहायक इंजीनियर के रूप में कार्य कर रहे ह। (6) श्री एम० एफ० फर्नांडीस, आकाशवाणी, पणजी में सहायक इंजीनियर के रूप में कार्य कर रहे हैं। (7) श्री एस० एन० गुप्त, आकाशवाणी, रांची में सहायक केन्द्र इंजीनियर के रूप में कार्य कर रहे हैं।

(ग) और (घ). जी, हां। श्री बी० एस० कुमार और श्री गुलाम मोहिउद्दीन को क्रमशः केन्द्र निदेशक (मनेजमेन्ट ग्रेड) और सहायक केन्द्र इंजीनियर के संवर्गों में पदोन्नति के उनके मामले में विभागीय पदोन्नति समिति द्वारा अधिलंघित किया गया था जिसने उनको क्रमशः जून, 1978 और फरवरी, 1978 में उपयुक्त नहीं पाया था।

(ङ) जी, हां। श्री बी० एस० कुमार, जो उप निदेशक (सम्पर्क) के पद पर कार्य कर रहे हैं, को विज्ञापन प्रसारण सेवा में विज्ञापकों सम्बन्धी कार्य करना होता है। इंजीनियरी अधिकारी, अपने सामान्य कार्यों के अलावा, इंजीनियरी स्टोर के इन्चार्ज भी है।

मंगोलिया द्वारा भारतीय फिल्मों की खरीद

66. **श्री राज नारायण** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मंगोलिया राज्य एजेन्सी के प्रतिनिधि ने यह घोषणा की है कि मंगोलिया सरकार 10 भारतीय फिल्में खरीदेगी ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनके क्या नाम हैं और वे किन-किन भाषाओं की हैं और इसके परिणामस्वरूप भारत सरकार को कितनी आय होगी ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी): (क) और (ख) मंगोलिया राज्य एजेंसी के निदेशक और भारत के सातवें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह सें फिल्म बाजार के प्रतिनिधि मे 17 जनवरी, 1979 को भारतीय चलचित्र निर्यात निगम के साथ एक अनन्य करार किया था जिसके अन्तर्गत मंगोलिया अपनी आवश्यकता की भारतीय फिल्में केवल भारतीय चलचित्र निर्यात निगम से ही खरीदेगा। शुरू में, मंगोलिया ने खरीद के लिए हिन्दी की 10 फिल्में चुनी है। ये हैं : (1) अदारा, (2) अनपढ़, (3) जनून, (4) मां, (5) राम और श्याम, (6) अपनापन, (7) हाथी मेरे साथी, (8) पति, पत्नी और वोह, (9) श्री 420 और (10) स्टोन फ्लावर। उक्त फिल्मों के निर्यात से सरकार को लगभग 2,13,000 रुपए की विदेशी मुद्रा की आय होगी।

Import of Alcohol by Synthetics and Chemicals Limited

67. **SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM**: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4160 dated 19th December, 1978 regarding alcohol imported by M/s. Synthetics and Chemicals Limited and state why this alcohol was kept in storage tanks till 1974 at Kandla and not shifted to Bareilly due to which heavy charges had to be paid by the company?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): The imported quantities of alcohol (approx. 10,000 tonnes) remained in the storage tanks at Kandla from January 1973 to July 1974 as M/s. Synthetics and Chemicals Ltd., Bareilly for whom the above quantities were imported failed to move the alcohol to their factory at Bareilly initially due to difficulties in the availability of transport facilities and later due to a strike and consequent closure of their factory from June to August, 1973. The Company was itself responsible for the movement of alcohol from Kandla to Bareilly and for the payment of the charges resulting from their own delay.

Shifting of Geological Survey of India

68. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Headquarters of Geological Survey of India are contemplated to be shifted from Calcutta to Bangalore;

(b) whether as a first step, the Directorate of Field Technique, Research Unit with all posts was ordered to go to Bangalore by 30th September, 1978; and

(c) if so, what are the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Field Technique Research Unit of the Geological Survey of India at Calcutta has been merged with the Airborne Mineral Surveys and Exploration Wing of Geological Survey of India at Bangalore. As a result of this shifting only 12 Gazetted officers have been transferred from Calcutta to Bangalore. No non-gazetted staff has been affected. No other office or unit of G.S.I. is proposed to be shifted out of Calcutta. The Field Technique Research Unit and the R & D Unit of the Airborne Mineral Surveys and Exploration Wing were both performing similar geochemical investigations, and there was considerable overlap in methodology and instrumentation. An X-ray fluorescence unit with computer attachment which is very useful for the Field Technique Research Unit is available only in Bangalore. There are also as many as five atomic absorption spectrophotometers at Bangalore which are the most important instruments for carrying out geochemical studies. At Calcutta the availability of these instruments is less. The G.S.I. Review Committee had also recommended the integration of A.M.S.E. and F.T.R.U. into a mineral exploration set up. Having regard to the above, and in order to ensure fullest utilisation of existing laboratory facilities and personnel, it was decided to shift and merge the F.T.R.U. with A.M.S.E.

Demand and Supply of Electricity in the Country

69. SHRI ANANT DAVE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the electricity potential available in the country with reference to the supply and demand of electricity in the country;

(b) how far Government propose to meet the shortfall; and

(c) what remedial measures are being taken in respect of thermal power stations that have stopped due to shortage of coal?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The total installed capacity in the country was about 24000 MW in utilities in March 1978. It is expected that an additional capacity of about 3000 MW would be commissioned during the year 1978-79, raising the installed generating capacity in the utilities to about 27000 MW at the end of March 1979. The present availability of energy in the country is estimated to be short of demand by about 10 per cent at present.

(b) It is proposed to meet the shortfall in supply by accelerated addition of new generating capacity, maximising energy generation from the existing installed capacity, integrated operation of the various power systems for optimizing hydro-thermal mix and by transfer of power from surplus to deficit areas. Guidelines have also been laid down for supply of power to various categories of consumers according to graded system of priorities during times of shortfall in power availability.

(c) No thermal power station has been completely shutdown due to shortage of coal. However some thermal power stations had to reduce

generation for want of adequate supplies of coal. A number of steps have been taken to arrange adequate supply of coal to such power stations. These include:—

(i) Railways and Coal India Ltd. have been requested to supply coal on a priority basis to those power stations which have a low coal stock.

(ii) Coal supply position to various power stations is being monitored on daily basis by representatives of Railways, Department of Coal/Power and Central Electricity Authority.

Wherever there is shortage of coal, immediate steps are taken to rush coal supplies to these power stations.

रेडियो और टेलीविजन से राजनीतिक नेताओं के प्रसारण

70. **श्री हुकम देव नारायण यादव :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन राजनीतिक नेताओं के नाम क्या हैं जिनके वक्तव्य जनता सरकार बनने के बाद दिसम्बर, 1978 तक रेडियो और टेलीविजन से प्रसारित किये गये उनके नाम कितनी बार आये और उनके वक्तव्यों के प्रसारण के लिये कुल कितना समय अलाट किया गया ; और

(ख) अप्रैल, 1977 से जून, 1978 तक की अवधि के दौरान इन संचार साधनों से प्रसारित कितने समाचार बुलेटिनों में हरिजनों पर किये गये अत्याचारों के बारे में समाचार सम्मिलित थे और वे प्रसारण कितने समय के थे और जुलाई, 1978 से दिसम्बर, 1978 तक की अवधि में ऐसे कितने प्रसारण किये गये थे और वे कितनी कितनी अवधि के थे ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) : (क) और (ख), प्रश्न के दोनों भागों के बारे में सामग्री एकत्र करने में निहित कार्य अति-विशाल है क्योंकि सभी आकाशवाणी केन्द्रों से प्रसारित और सभी दूरदर्शन केन्द्रों से टेलीकास्ट किए गए कई हजार समाचार बुलैटिनों और अन्य कार्यक्रमों की स्क्रिप्टो को प्राप्त करके उनका सावधानी पूर्वक विश्लेषण करना होगा। इस प्रकार एकत्र की गई सूचना लगने वाले समय और प्रयास के अनुरूप नहीं होगी।

Whole Time N.C.C. Officers

71. SHRI B. P. MANDAL: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) as to why N.C.C. whole time officers who have completed 15 years of their services between 1st November 1978 to 15th January, 1979 have not been promoted as substantive Majors;

(b) also as to when the aforesaid category officers would get permanent commission; and

(c) the number of officers affected under the aforesaid category?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) This is owing to the non-availability of vacancies, as officers can be considered for appointment in higher rank only against existing vacancies.

(b) The cases of eligible whole-time NCC officers for grant of permanent commissions are still under consideration.

(c) The number of officers falling under category (a) above is 64.

Prohibition in Armed Forces

72. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the suggestion to introduce prohibition in the armed forces as a part of Government's policy of introducing total prohibition throughout the country has since been examined; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As and when total prohibition is enforced in the country, the Armed Force personnel will fall in line with other citizens of the country.

March by Civilian Employees to Defence Secretary's Office on 16-1-1979

73. SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of civilian employees of the Air Force Headquarters and inter-service organisations marched to Defence Secretary's office on 16th January, 1979;

(b) if so, their demands; and

(c) steps taken/being taken to redress their grievances?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) to (c). No, Sir. Although such a mass deputation was notified, it was not actually undertaken. Representatives of the concerned Staff Organisations were invited by the Defence Secretary for a meeting, prior to the date in question, and the problems they had in mind were discussed.

The main grievances related to such matters as delay in drawing up promotion panels, finalising recruitment rules, and supply of winter uniforms to Class IV employees; erosion in the availability of promotion avenues, etc.

These are being sympathetically looked into.

Talk on Bank Dispute Broadcast in 'Spotlight' Programme of A.I.R.

74. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the AIR in its programe—Spotlight—broadcast a talk on Bank dispute on 15th January, 1979;

(b) whether in this connection he has received any complaint from any Member of Parliament;

(c) will the Minister please lay on the table a copy of the script of that talk; and

(d) who gave this talk and basis on which he was selected for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A copy of the script is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3264/79].

(d) The Talk was given by Shri S. Kumar Dev, Chief of Bureau, 'Commerce' Weekly of Bombay. The selection was made on the basis of the Correspondent's experience as broadcaster and his knowledge of the subject.

Production and Import of Crude

75. SHRI G. NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of crude imported and crude produced in our country and what is the total quantity actually utilised during the last three financial years;

(b) what is the estimated total requirement of crude for the year 1978-79 and how much is imported and how much is produced in our country; and

(c) what is the total quantity of crude already utilised and how much more required?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) The

total quantity of crude imported and crude produced indigenously and the quantity actually processed during the last three financial years has been as under:—

(Qty. in Million Tonnes)

	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
Crude Production	8·4	8·9	10·7
Crude Imports	13·9	14·2	14·4
Crude Processed	22·4	23·0	24·9

(b) The total estimated requirement of Crude Oil for the year 1978-79 is 26.4 Million Tonnes approximately of which a quantity of 15 million tonnes is expected to be imported and 11.5 million tonnes is likely to be available from indigenous sources.

(c) The quantity of crude processed in the Country during April—December, 1978, is 19.078 Million Tonnes. It is estimated that the balance requirement for 1978-79 will be 7.422 million tonnes approximately.

भारतीय उर्वरक निगम गोरखपुर में एक अलग विद्युत् संयंत्र की स्थापना

76. **श्री युवराज** : क्या पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारतीय उर्वरक निगम के गोरखपुर स्थित कारखाने में 25 मैगावाट क्षमता का एक अलग विद्युत संयंत्र लगाया जा रहा है ताकि वहां विद्युत की सप्लाई में व्यवधान न हो ;

(ख) क्या विद्युत की अपर्याप्त तथा अनियमित सप्लाई के कारण निगम को अपने कारखाने की पूरी क्षमता का उपयोग करने में कठिनाई हो रही है;

(ग) क्या बिजली के केवल कुछ ही मिनट तक भी फेल हो जाने के बाद कारखाने को पुन: चालू करने में 20 घन्टे से भी अधिक समय लग जाता है; और

(घ) इस विद्युत संयंत्र के लिए विश्व बैंक से कितनी सहायता मिलने की आशा है और यह विद्युत संयंत्र संभवत: कब तक चालू हो जाएगा ?

पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) गोरखपुर स्थित उर्वरक यूनिट के लिए 25 मेगावाट क्षमता का एक कैप्टिव विद्युत संयंत्र स्थापित करने का एक प्रस्ताव है।

(ख) विद्युत खराबी/वोल्टेज की अस्थिरता आदि के कारण अप्रैल 1978 से जनवरी 1979 के दौरान यूनिट ने नाइट्रोजन के उत्पादन में लगभग 5400 मी. टन की मात्रा तक अनुमानित हानि उठाई।

(ग) जब विद्युत गतिरोध/खराबी के कारण अमोनिया संयंत्र पूर्ण रूप से बन्द हो जाता है तब उसे पुन: चालू करने में लगभग 15 से 20 घण्टे लगते हैं।

(घ) इस प्रायोजना के लिए विश्व बैंक से 770 लाख रुपये की ऋण सहायता को अलग रखा गया है। इस परियोजना के शुरू होने की तारीख से 36 महीने तक पूरा होने की आशा है।

1978–79 में सुपरतापीय बिजली घरों तथा पन बिजली परियोजनाओं की स्थापना करना

77. **श्री यमुना प्रसाद शास्त्री** : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में इस समय विद्युत उत्पादन क्षमता मांग से लगभग 30 प्रतिशत कम है और यदि हां, तो देश में कृषि तथा उद्योगों को पर्याप्त मात्रा में विद्युत उपलब्ध करने के लिए 1978–79 में किन-किन स्थानों पर सुपर तापीय बिजली घर तथा पन बिजली परियोजनायें स्थापित की गई और वे कब तक चालू की जाएंगी ; और

(ख) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध किया है कि सिंगरौली में कोयले के भारी निक्षेपों को देखते हुए वहां पर एक सुपर तापीय बिजली घर स्थापित किया जाए और यदि हां, तो सिंगरौली में सुपर तापीय बिजली घर की स्थापना करने के बारे में केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्रवाई की जानी है ?

ऊर्जा मंत्री (श्री पी० रामचन्द्रन): (क) जी नहीं बहुत से राज्यों में बिजली सप्लाई की स्थिति कुल मिलाकर संतोषजनक रही है और कभी कुछ ही राज्यों में महसूस की जा रही है। समग्र रूप में, देश में ऊर्जा उपलब्धता फिलहाल मांग से लगभग 10% ही कम होने का अनुमान है। देश में कृषि और उद्योगों को पर्याप्त मात्रा में विद्युत उपलब्ध कराने के लिए एक वृहत कार्यक्रम चल रहा है। इस कार्यक्रम में 1978—83 की 5 वर्ष की अवधि के दौरान लगभग 185000 मैगावाट की विद्युत उत्पादन क्षमता की वृद्धि करने की संकल्पना की गई है। 1978–79 के दौरान अब तक,

केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में कार्यान्वयन के लिए निम्नलिखित सुपर ताप विद्युत केन्द्रों का अनुमोदन किया गया है :—

1	2	3	4
कोरबा सुपर ताप विद्युत केन्द्र	1100	1982–83	200 मेगावाट
		1983–84	400 मेगावाट
		1984–85	500 मेगावाट
रामागुंडम सुपर ताप विद्युत् केन्द्र	1100	1983–84	400 मेगावाट
		1984–85	200 मेगावाट
		1985–86	500 मेगावाट
नैवेली दूसरी लाइन फट	630	1983–84	420 मेगावाट
		1984–85	210 मेगावाट

1978–79 के दौरान अब तक निम्नलिखित विद्युत् परियोजनाएं विभिन्न राज्य योजनाओं में शामिल किए जाने के लिए अनुमोदित की गई हैं :—

स्कीम (राज्य)	प्रतिष्ठापित क्षमता	चालू करने का कार्यक्रम
विन्ध्य प्रयाग (उ० प्र०)	4×65.5	3 यूनिटें–1984—88 के दौरान चौथी यूनिट–1987–88 के बाद
जाजा (हि० प्र०)	3×40	1984—88 के दौरान
अपर इन्द्रावती (उड़ीसा)	5×120	1984–88 के दौरान
मुक्टी (त्रिपुरा)	1×5	1980–81
माही चरण-दो	1×25	1×25–1982–83
(राजस्थान)	1×45	1×45—1983–84

(ख) तिमरौली कोयला क्षेत्र में बैढन गांव के निकट एक वृहत ताप विद्युत केन्द्र स्थापित करने के लिए एक प्रस्ताव मध्य प्रदेश बिजली बोर्ड ने भेजा है। इसकी प्रारम्भिक प्रतिष्ठापित क्षमता 1000 मे० वा० होगी तथा इसमें 3000 मे० वा० के चरण प्रतिष्ठापन की संकल्पना की गई है। इस प्रस्ताव का केन्द्रीय विद्युत प्राधिकरण में तकनीकी तथा आर्थिक दृष्टि से मूल्यांकन किया जा रहा है।

Bottleneck in Promotions of Army Officers

78. SHRI RUDOLF RODRIGUES: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a bottleneck in the promotion of Army Officers beyond the rank of Major because of inadequate promotion prospects; and

(b) what immediate steps Government plans to take to meet this situation especially in the light of the comparatively disadvantageous situation the armed forces officers face *vis-a-vis* the I.A.S. officers in the matter of promotion prospects?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGGIVAN RAM): (a) and (b). There was a significant step-up in the intake of officers in the Army, following the 1962 conflict as a consequence of which a congestion in developing in the rank of Majors.

Appropriate remedial action is under active consideration to relieve possible stagnation and to ensure reasonable promotion prospects.

It will be appreciated that any solutions in this bahalf will need to be devised within the framework of Service-structures, functional requirements and terms and conditions of service which are peculiar to the Defence forces.

Safety of Taj Mahal

79. SHRI B. K. NAIR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would affirm that the Taj Mahal is fully protected and made absolutely safe from the damaging effects of pollutants emitted from the Mathura Refinery and numerous industrial units in and around Agra; and

(b) whether Government would give paramount importance to the maintenance of the nation's proudest monument in its immaculate beauty, whatever the cost it may entail, including the shifting of the Refinery and the smelting plant to other centres?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Government are keenly aware of the danger posed to the Taj Mahal by gaseous pollutants emitted by industrial units in and around Agra, and are determined to do all in their power to protect this great monument from suffering any damage on this score. It was in this connection that Government had appointed a Committee of experts to go into the likely impact on the Taj of the Mathura Refinery, which is expected to go into operation in the 3rd quarter of 1980, and to guide the Mathura Refinery Project authorities in planning and implementing effective control measures. The Committee's report has already been placed before the House. The Committee has recommended a number of anti-pollution measures to be adopted by Mathura Refinery. It has also made certain recommendations such as re-location of certain industries, phasing out the thermal power plants, replacement of coal fired locomotives by diesel locomotoives in the marshalling yard etc. at Agra. The Committee's report is at present under the active consideration of the Government.

(b) As mentioned earlier, all efforts would be made to ensure that the Taj Mahal is preserved irrespective of the cost entailed. However, in view of the comparatively very small contribution which pollutants from the Refinery are likely to make to the environment in Agra and the various protective measures which has either already been taken or are under consi-

deration, it is not considered necessary o shift the refinery to another site.

Fire in the Jealgorah Colliery

80. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a fire in the Jealgorah colliery of B.C.C.L. in Dhanbad resulting in the closing down of the total mine, if so, details of it;

(b) whether it is a fact that none of the costly machines and equipments were removed from the mines though the management got seven days time for fighting the fire, if so, details of the machines left underground and their costs;

(c) whether there was a silent march of all the workmen of Jealgorah colliery to the Head Quarters of the BCCL in Dhanbad to protest against this murder of mines; and

(d) do the Government propose to make a probe into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The fire was detected on 12-1-1979 and the mine was sealed on 21-1-1979 due to the fire fighting operation not being successful. Conveyors, creepers, ventilation fans, haulages, tipplers, etc., with a value of about Rs. 40 lakhs were left underground as all appliances used for raising had to be kept free for fire control operations and for safety of men engaged in the work. The entire operations were conducted by Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. in association with the Derector General, Mines Safety, Central Mining Research Station, Rescue Stations and Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd. However, the machinery and equipment are likely to be recovered when the mine is reopened.

(c) There was a march of workmen from Jealgorah colliery to headquarters of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. in Dhanbad,

(d) Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. have been instructed to appoint a committee to go into the matter. This committee will include representations of Director General, Mines Safety, the Central Mining Research Station and the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. management.

COB Licences obtained by Foreign Drug Firms with more than 26 per cent Equity

81. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hathi Committee had observed that foreign drug firms with more than 26 per cent equity had obtained COB licences for several items in 1970-1973 without making any reference under diversification during 1966-1970;

(b) details of COB licences approved for such firms; items, reference to D.G.T.D. if any, capacities approved and production during last three years; and

(c) under how many COB licences some items are manufactured without valid industrial licences for which canalised raw materials are allocated with reasons for such allocations?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) The Hathi Committee observed that most of the foreign companies which granted COB Licences did not inform the DGTD of the particulars of the diversification activities including their revised manufacturing programme and the new articles proposed to be manufactured and the value of the minor balancing plant, if any, added by them.

as required by Government Press Note of October 27, 1966. The Committee added that the authorities concerned did not verify whether effective steps had been taken by the companies for the items covered by the COB applications and the grant of the COB Licences have given undue advantage to foreign compaonies to the detriment of the Indian Sector. However, the Hathi Committee expressed the view that the long-term objective of a self-reliant Indian Sector of the drug industry should not be lost sight of, while at the same time any solution which is arrived at should be such as not to result in shortages of drugs. With this object in mind, the Committee stated that, in regard to capacities approved for the manufacture of bulk drugs against COB Licences they would recommend that these might be regularised subject to certain conditions. In regard to formulations also, the Committee recommended similar action.

(b) A Statement furnishing the detains of COB Licences granted to drug companies having foreign equity of more than 26 per cent, items and capacities approved thereunder and their production during the last 3 years, to the extent available, is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3265/79].

(c) COB Licences are valid approvals under the I(D&R) Act. Therefore, the question does not arise.

Issue of Licences to IDPL

82. SHRI MOTIBHAI R. CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) details of industrial licences and letters of intent obtained by IDPL so far; what are the bulk drugs for which they have established commercial production; and

(b) details of those bulk drugs formulations where production has not been established by IDPL?

4037 LS—5.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) The requisite details are indicated in Statement I. Laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3266/79].

(b) The requisite details are indicated in Statement II. Laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3266/79].

राजस्थान में डीजल की कमी

83. श्री मीठालाल पटेल : क्या पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देश में तथा विशेषकर राजस्थान में डीजल की भारी कमी होने के कारण किसानों की फसलों पर तथा सड़क परिवहन पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इसकी समुची आवश्यकता पूरी करने के लिये कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं, यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं।

पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) अक्टूबर, 1978 से जनवरी 1979 तक की अवधि के दौरान हुई बिक्री के अनुसार देश में सम्पूर्ण रूप से और विशेषकर राजस्थान में डीजल की खपत गतवर्ष की उत्तरवर्ती अवधि की तुलना में कहीं अधिक है। वस्तुत: जनवरी 1979 में राजस्थान में डीजल तेल की प्रतिदिन औसत बिक्री जनवरी 1978 की प्रतिनिधि औसत बिक्री की तुलना में 27 प्रतिशत अधिक थी। फिर भी कुछ थोड़े से डिपुओं में कुछ समय के लिए एच. एस. डी. खत्म हो गया जिसमे अलवर, भरतपुर, सवाईमाधोपुर और उदयपुर में कृषि सम्बन्धी तथा परिवहन कार्यसंचालन पर अस्थाई रूप से प्रभाव पड़ा।

(ख) मांग को पुरा करने के लिए रेलवे के साथ परामर्श करके डिपुओं तक डीजल तेल की अधिकतम मात्रा को पहुंचाने के लिए कदम उठाये गये हैं।

Appointment of Dealers of L.P. Gas

84. SHRI AHSAN JAFRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government for appointing dealers of L.P. gas, the

terms of appointment of dealers, the categories of persons given preferences if any and their terms and conditions of appointment;

(b) the number of consumers of L.P.G. during 1978-79 both domestic and commercial, giving state-wise details; and

(c) the number of connections granted during 1978-79, both domestic and commercial by the Hon'ble Minister or the authority enjoying discretionery power to grant priority or out of turn connections?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (c). The requiste information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

बिहार में विद्युत् सप्लाई

85. श्री रामानन्द तिवारी : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार में बिजली की सप्लाई उसकी आवश्यकता से कम होती है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप घरेलू, औद्योगिक तथा कृषि प्रयोजनाओं के लिए औद्योगिक बिजली की सप्लाई की निरंतर कमी रहती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस कमी को दूर करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

ऊर्जा मंत्री (श्री पी० रामचन्द्रन) : (क) जी, हां। बिहार में बिजली की कमी है जिसके फलस्वरूप घरेलू, औद्योगिक और कृषि क्षेत्रों को समय समय पर बिजली की पर्याप्त सप्लाई नहीं हो रही है।

(ख) प्रणाली में अतिरिक्त उत्पादन क्षमता की अभिवृद्धि करने, पारेषण तार-जाल का विस्तार करने और ताप विद्युत केन्द्रों के कार्यकरण में सुधार करके मौजूदा प्रतिष्ठापित क्षमता से अधिकतम उत्पादन करने के लिए राज्य बिजली बोर्ड द्वारा कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं। राज्य सरकार से भी कहा गया है कि वे परियोजनाओं के कार्य-निष्पादन की मानीटरिंग करें और उनके प्रबन्ध में सुधार लाने के लिए आवश्यक कदम उठाएं। केन्द्रीय विद्युत प्राधिकरण द्वारा भी समय-समय पर सहायता दी जा रही है।

Impact of Inadequate Power Supply on Industrial Production

86. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power supply was inadequate in a number of States, during the last nine months;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) what is the impact on industrial production and the estimated loss of revenue on this account?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Power supply has been satisfactory throughout the country during the last 9 months except for certain pockets in the eastern region and M.P.

(b) In the eastern region there has been a peak shortage as the hydro-power generation is at present only about 20 per cent of the total installed capacity. For want of adequate transmission line the system is not fully integrated. Apart from this the performance of the thermal power stations in this area has not been very satisfactory which has resulted in shortage of power.

(c) Power shortage do affect industrial production. However, there are other factors such as industrial relations, shortage of imported and indigenous raw materials, shortage of furnace oil, shortage of finances, slackness in demand etc. which also result in reduction in industrial production. As such, it is not possible to assess the impact of power shortages alone on industrial production or to estimate the loss of revenue on account of power shortages alone.

Grant of Import Licence to M/s Ranbaxy for Doxycycline Project

87. SHRI S. S. SOMANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) value of capital goods import licence granted to M/s. Ranbaxy for the import of plant and machinery for their Doxycycline project;

(b) whether orders have been placed for the capital goods required for the project and if so, date, value and delivery schedule of orders placed; and

(c) whether all equipments ordered for the project have been received, and when is the plant likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) M/s. Ranbaxy have been granted Licence for the manufacture of Doxycycline subject to the condition, *inter-alia*, that no import of capital goods shall be allowed.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Views of National Forum of Share Holders on Purchasing Shares of Companies

88. SHRI S. S. SOMANI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Forum of Shareholders has urged Government to prohibit companies from using their funds for purchasing shares of other companies; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Forum's suggestion alongwith the Sachar Committee's recommendations on the subject are under consideration of Government and appropriate action for legislative amendments will be taken in due course.

गुजरात द्वारा शीरा निर्यात करने की अनुमति मांगा जाना

89. श्री धर्म सिंह भाई पटेल : क्या पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गुजरात सरकार के उद्योग आयुक्त, अहमदाबाद ने, उकामोर्तीसिस एक्सपोर्ट 8899 दिनांक 30 जून, 1978 के अनुसार मंत्रालय से यह सिफारिश की है कि गुजरात के सौराष्ट्र प्रदेश में अपलेज, धोराजी जाम जोधपुर आदि तालुकों में खाण्डसारी मिलों द्वारा उत्पादित 30,000 टन शीरा का राज्य व्यापार निगम अथवा किन्हीं दो व्यक्तियों के माध्यम से निर्यात करने की अनुमति दी जाए,

(ख) यदि हां, तो शीरे के निर्यात की अनुमति कब दी गई थी,

(ग) यदि अभी तक अनुमति नहीं दी गई तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) उसके निर्यात की अनुमति कब और किस प्रकार दी जाएगी।

पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) गुजरात से भारत के राज्य व्यापार निगम (एस. टी. सी.) के द्वारा 30,000 मी. टन खण्डसारी शीरे के निर्यात की स्वीकृति 30 अगस्त 1978 को प्रदान की गई थी। किन्तु उत्पादनकर्ता यूनिटों से बन्दरगाहों तक शीरे के परिवहन और निर्यात के लिए प्रबन्ध करने में एस. टी. सी. कठिनाइयों का सामना कर रही थी। इसी बीच में दिनांक 29 नवम्बर 1978 से शीरे को ओ. जी. एल. के अन्तर्गत लाया गया था जिसके अधीन इसे राज्य सरकार की अनुमति से 31-3-79 से पहले निर्यात किया जाएगा। दि गुजरात खंडसारी मैन्युफैक्चर्स एसोसिएशन भी यह सुविधा प्राप्त कर सकती है।

(ग) और (घ): प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

जूनागढ़, राजकोट और जामनगर जिलों में गैस कनेक्शनों की अनुमति

90. श्री धर्मसिंह भाई पटेल : क्या पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 31 दिसम्बर, 1978 तक गुजरात की जूनागढ़, राजकोट और जामनगर जिलों के लोगों को कितने गैस कनेक्शन प्रदान किये गये ;

(ख) गैस कनेक्शन के लिये जिलावार कितने आवेदन-पत्र विचाराधीन हैं और इन मांगों के कब तक पूरी हो जाने की संभावना है ;

(ग) लोगों की मांग को पूरा करने के लिये सरकार द्वारा कितने गैस कनेक्शन प्रदान किये जायेंगे और इस प्रयोजन के लिये कितने वितरण एजेंट नियुक्त किये जायेंगे ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो कब तक ; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ।

पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) जूनागढ़, राजकोट और जामनगर जिलों में दिनांक 31-12-1978 तक कुल लगभग क्रमशः 11000, 25000 और 1050 उपभोक्ताओं को इण्डेन गैस के कनेक्शन प्रदान किये गये ।

(ख) जूनागढ़, राजकोट और जामनगर में क्रमशः कुल लगभग 4500, 5900 और 3800 उपभोक्ता प्रतीक्षा सूची में हैं । वर्ष 1980 के अन्त तक देश में तरल पैट्रोलियम गैस की उपलब्धता में पर्याप्त वृद्धि होने की संभावना है और उस समय के आसपास इन तीन स्थानों सहित देश के विभिन्न भागों में तरल पेट्रोलियम गैस की बकाया मांगों को पर्याप्त रूप से पूरा करना संभव हो सकेगा ।

(ग) और (घ) तेल कम्पनियां लगभग 28 लाख उपभोक्ताओं को नए गैस कनेक्शन जारी करेंगी और नए वितरकों की नियुक्ति, उपरोक्त उपभोक्ताओं के नामांकन के लिए अतिरिक्त आवश्यकता के अनुसार, वर्ष 1979-80 से 1982-83 तक चरणबद्ध रूप में की जायेगी जो कि निम्नलिखित संयंत्रों के आरम्भ होने से तरल पैट्रोलियम गैस की उपलब्धता में वृद्धि पर आधारित होगी :—

(i) बम्बई हाई सम्बद्ध गैस से खाना पकाने की गैस को अलग करने की सुविधाएं;

(ii) कोयाली शोधनशाला में द्वितीय स्तर की शोधन सुविधाएं ;

(iii) मथुरा शोधनशाला ; और

(iv) बोंगाईगांव शोधनशाला का कोकर यूनिट ।

अनुमान है कि उपरोक्त उपलब्धता से वर्ष 1982-83 तक वर्तमान अनुमानित मांग पूर्णरूपेण पूरी हो जायेगी ।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Cases pending in Gujarat High Court

91. SHRI DHARMASINHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases are pending in Gujarat High Court, Ahmedabad;

(b) out of all pending cases how many cases are pending for the last 5 to 10 years;

(c) how many cases were registered and cleared in the years 1976, 1977, and 1978;

(d) what are the measures taken by Government to speed up the existing work system; and

(e) how many posts of judges are vacant up to 31st December, 1978; when these posts will be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) 12,990 cases were pending in Gujarat High Court on 31-12-1978.

(b) Out of the 12,990 cases, 184 cases were pending for 5 to 10 years on 31-12-1978.

(c) The number of cases instituted and disposed of during the last three years was as follows:—

Year	Instituted	Disposed of
1976 . .	13091	13489
1977 . .	13993	14560
1978 . .	14972	13704

(d) Some of the steps taken by the High Court for ensuring better disposal of cases are: fixing matters for hearing by giving short returnable dates, dispensing with printing, expediting and giving priority to matters under certain Acts and grouping of matters arising from land acquisition cases.

(e) On 31-12-1978, 6 posts of Judges were vacant. Proposals for filling up 4 posts have been received and are being processed. Proposals in respect of the remaining 2 posts are still awaited from the concerned authorities.

Theft Cases in Ordnance Factory, Ambarnath

92. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have received a representation dated 28th April, 1978 regarding theft cases in Ordnance Factory, Ambarnath District, Thana (Maharashtra);

(b) if so, what action have Government taken in regard to the said representation; and

(c) if no decisive action has so far been taken, what are the reasons of delay; whether the responsibility has been fixed on the persons responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The complaint relates to alleged theft of some materials from Ordnance Factory, Ambarnath and irregularities in disposal of seized material by police authorities. Enquiries are being made to find out whether the material was stolen from the Factory. Disposal of seized material by auction by Police authorities concerns the State Government, who are reported to be looking into this matter.

Demands of M.E.S. Civilian Employees

93. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4356 on 20th December, 1978 and state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the other demands of MES Civilian Engineers' Association's resolution passed on 19th April, 1978; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Briefly, the other demands are:

(a) Revise the pay scales of Supdts. Gde. I from Rs. 550—750 to Rs. 550—900 with retrospective effect.

(b) Fill all the vacancies of Asstt. Engineer, Class II through departmental promotions from serving civilian Supdts. Gde. I only.

(c) Scrap the age limit for departmental candidates who wish to appear for the UPSC examination/interviews.

(d) The Government's decision of 22 February, 1978 to give time scale promotions to Central Government Employees whose promotional chances are remote, based on the Third Pay Commission's recommendations, must be made applicable to the engineer's cadre also.

(e) The ratio between Supdts. Gde. I and Gde. II shall be made 1:1 by increasing the vacancies of Supdts. Gde. I and resultant vacancies must be filled by promotion from Supdts. Gde. II.

The position is as under:

(a) and (c). The demands are under consideration.

(b) The post of Charge-Holder, prior to its upgradation as Assistant Engineer, Class II, was being manned by the civilians and Military personnel in the ration of 2 : 1. Even after the upgradation of the post, the Military element has to be adjusted against the upgraded posts of Assistant Engineers in the prescribed ratio. This demand of the Association cannot therefore be agreed to.

(d) The Government is not aware of any such decision.

(c) The posts of Supdts. Grade I and Grade II in the MES are sanctioned on functional basis and no ratio can be fixed. The number in each grade depends on the workload which varies from time to time. The adoption of the ratio of 1:1 is, therefore, not practicable.

Harassment for Supply of Coal to permit Holders

94. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that even after obtaining permits from District Magistrate or other authorities the permit holders sometime have to undergo much harassment and difficulties in getting supply of coal from the areas allotted against the permits and also get supply of inferior quality of coal;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof: and

(c) whether Government will take step to remove these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c). Reports have occasionally been received regarding difficulties being experienced by permit holders in securing the required quality of coal. In the past availability of certain superior grades of coal was below requirements. However since production is now normal such difficulties should not arise in coming months.

Relay Centre at Asansol

95. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to set up a T.V. Relay Centre at Asansol, West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details of the plan and the time to be taken to complete it?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. It is proposed to set up a 10 KW relay transmitter with a 150 metre tower at Asansol. It will relay programmes of the Calcutta TV Station, and will have a coverage area of 18,000 sq. kms. comprising 55.75 lakhs of rural and 11.60 lakhs of urban population. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 130 lakhs and is expected to be completed during the Sixth Five Year Plan.

Inter-Corporate Investments

96. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that inter-corporate investment is one of the principal weapons in the hands of the large business houses to keep and expand control over a large number of companies;

(b) if so, what are the facts thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to regulate and restrict inter-corporate investments; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) to (d). The Government are aware that inter-corporate investment is an important instrument of gaining corporate control. Restrictions on the power of public limited companies to make investments in other companies and for the Central Government exercising the necessary regulatory/control over investments beyond specified limits, already exist in Section 372 of the Companies Act. Further, the Sachar Committee has made certain recommendations in Chapter IX of its Report (copies laid on the Table of the House on 30-8-78) for restricting future inter-company investments to only specied purposes and for the imposition of an absolute limit on such investments. These recommendations are under Government's active consideration and such of those as are accepted by Government will be given effect to by brinning in necessary amending lelgislaltion in due course.

Gas Connection in Delhi

97. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to give more gas connections in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and whether the waiting list has been exhausted?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) The present plan of oil companies envisages giving more connections in Delhi.

(b) It is expected to liquidate the waiting list held by the distributors of various oil companies as on 31-3-77 by early 1980.

उदयपुर और अजमेर के बीच क्षेत्र में पन्नों का पाया जाना

98. श्री दौलतराम सारण : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राजस्थान के किन-किन स्थानों में पन्ने पाये गये हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि उदयपुर और अजमेर के बीच 150 मील के क्षेत्र में पन्ने के वेन हैं और क्या इस बारे में कभी कोई सर्वेक्षण कराया गया है

(ग) क्या उपरोक्त क्षेत्र के गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में चार पट्टे की खानों में पर्यवेक्षण की कमी के कारण ठीक प्रकार से कार्य नहीं हो रहा है और इस क्षेत्र के कारण पन्ना पत्थर बड़े पैमाने पर गुजरात और जयपुर में चोरबाजारी में भेजे जाते हैं जिसके परिणामस्वरूप सरकारी राजस्व को भारी हानि होती है ; और

(घ) उपरोक्त क्षेत्र में पाये गये पन्नों से सरकारी राजस्व में वृद्धि करने के लिये क्या उपाय किये गये हैं और किये जा रहे हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कड़िया मुण्डा) : (क) राजस्थान में अजमेर जिले के राजगढ़, गुवास और दुवानी तथा उदयपुर जिले के कालीगुमान और देवी स्थानों पर पन्ना पाया गया है।

(ख) अभी तक के सवक्षण के फलस्वरूप अजमेर और उदयपुर जिलों में फैली 195 किलोमीटर लम्बी पट्टी में पन्नाधारी क्षेत्रों का पता चला है जिसमें कहीं-कहीं पर पन्ने के छिटपुट भंडार पाए गए हैं।

(ग) राज्य सरकार के अनुसार, पन्ने की खुदाई, निकासी, सफाई और छटाई आदि कार्य राज्य सरकार के प्रतिनिधि की मौजूदगी में किया जाता है। इन क्षेत्रों से पन्ने की चोरी के बारे में कोई सूचना नहीं है।

(घ) राज्य सरकार ने आवश्यक उपाय किए हैं जैसे पट्टे की मंजूरी में विशेष शर्तों को जोड़ना, महत्वपूर्ण खानों में पर्यवेक्षकों की नियुक्ति तथा जिन खनन पट्टों का उपयोग नहीं हो रहा है, उनके बारे में आवश्यक उपाय करना।

Recommendations of Sachar Committee

99. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendation of Sachar Committee on MRTP Act with regard to the ban to be imposed on the Companies donations to the Political Parties have been accepted by Government and a proposal to amend the Company Law is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, details therein; and

(c) expected period by which the act is expected to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) to (c). The recommendations of the Sachar Committee on the revision of the Companies and MRTP Acts including donations to political parties are now under Government's active consideration and such of the recommendations as are accepted by the Government will be given effect to by bringing in amending legislation in due course.

Unloading of Petroleum and Kerosene

100. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether unloading of petroleum and kerosene at Ports was hampered during the Dockers Strike as a result of which there were shortage of these items in certain parts of the country; and

(b) if so, what steps were taken to make the availability of these items in the affected parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following steps were taken to minimise the effect and thereby maintain the supplies.

(i) Both the crude and product tanker position was reviewed in detail and the tankers which required immediate berthing to maintain supplies were identified and the matter taken up with port authorities.

(ii) A very close liason was maintained with port authorities, particularly at Bombay, which helped in berthing one crude and one product tanker in time at Bombay to save the situation.

Proposal for Rural Pad Yatras by Lawyers

101. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for rural Pad Yatras by the lawyers to contact the poor and helpless litigants and identify and solve their problems and organisation of legal aid camps by the lawyers in rural areas where free legal services could be rendered and disputes could be brought before Lok Nyayalayas so that they could be settled by compromise in the presence of people themselves as a measure of the package programme of taking the legal services to the door steps of the people and make the bare foot lawyer programme a success for rural India; and

(b) if so, furnish details of the steps taken/proposal formulated and action taken for implementation of the programme for easy and speedy disposal of disputes?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) and (b). In its report on National Juridicare, the Bhagwati Committee has suggested that Legal Service Commi-

tees should organise camps in rural areas, slums and colonies in which the poor live and that lawyers and social workers should go round, spread legal awareness and also find out the difficulties of the poor. The suggestion has also been made that they should try to effect a settlement between these persons and the affected parties. The report is being processed by Government.

C.I.T.U. and other Trade Unions' Reaction to the Baweja Committee Report

102. SHRI BHAGAT RAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware about the demand raised by CITU and other Central Trade Unions to reject the recommendations of Baweja Committee which seek to throw out of jobs thousands of workers in coal mines and to impose heavier workload on the workers; and

(b) what is the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). Some representations have been received from CITU and other Unions against the recommendations of the Baweja Committee report. The Committee has not recommended retrenchment of workers but has only stated that there is some surplus labour mostly in non-productive categories and has recommended that such surplus labour in different categories should be identified and re-deployed for productive purposes. The report also envisages that the younger workers may be given specialised training in skilled categories and the older workers attractive voluntary retirement benefits in order to tackle the surplus manpower problem. The recommendation has been brought to the notice of Coal India for taking suitable action.

As regards workload, the Committee has suggested that in the case of Bengal-Bihar coalfields the workload of piece-rated loaders should be fixed at not less than 100 cft as in the outlying coalfields and that the workload of trammers should be re-fixed realistically and incorporated in the Wage Agreement. Government have indicated that these issues will be taken up during the next wage negotiations.

Supply of Coal to Punjab

103. SHRI BHAGAT RAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how much coal was demanded by and supplied to Punjab monthwise during the last two years;

(b) whether he is aware that industry in Punjab is facing grave crisis due to shortage of coal; and

(c) what remedial steps to end coal crisis in the State, he has taken and is going to take?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Supplies by rail of soft coke, hard coke and raw coal to the Punjab State during 1977-78 and 1978-79 (upto Nov. '78), monthwise, are given below:—

(figures in four wheeler wagons)

Month	Soft Coke	Hard Coke	Raw coal
April, 77	292	639	11356
May, 77	292	1211	10806
June, 77	391	1301	8412
July, 77	344	909	10223
Aug., 77	538	1222	8523
Sept., 77	559	735	10169
Oct., 77	552	986	10097
Nov., 77	314	933	8769
Dec., 77	271	1151	6158
Jan., 78	825	457	6331
Feb., 78	359	465	7680
March, 78	304	730	9170
April, 78	195	755	7121
May, 78	117	469	7174
June, 78	321	452	5454
July, 78	222	708	6139
Aug., 78	125	903	8299
Sept., 78	62	564	7398
Oct., 78	94	775	6025
Nov., 78	36	698	4816

(b) There are some distress reports from some of the industries in Punjab on account of inadequate supply of coal.

(c) Coal stocks at the pithead are approximately 12.00 million tonnes and are adequate to meet the requirements of consumers. Constant liaison is maintained with the railways for improvement in wagon supply. The coal companies are making road releases to the consumers on request to make good the shortfalls in rail despatches.

Implementation of Recommendations of Study Group on Steel Industry

104. SHRI BHAGAT RAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) why the recommendations made by the Six Study Groups on steel industry which were accepted unanimously in the plenary session of steel workers held on the 30th November, 1977, presided over by him, have not been implemented till date; and

(b) when will these recommendations be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). When the Reports of the six Study Groups were formally adopted at a plenary session of the members of the Study Groups held on 30th November, 1977, it was, *inter alia*, decided that the Minister for Steel and Mines would consult a small group of leaders of the Central Trade Union Organisations to enable Government to take appropriate decision on the recommendations and their implementation. A number of meetings were held with the Group of Central Trade Union Organisations. In the last meeting held on 5th May, 1978, the Union leaders decided to discuss among themselves the various issues involved in deciding on elections in steel plants for determining the bargaining agent. No decisions appear to have been taken by them so far and, consequently, no further meeting of the Group has taken place after May, 1978.

However, the various recommendations contained in the Reports have been taken note of and are considered for appropriate action as far as possible within the limitations imposed by other considerations. For example, matters relating to recognition of unions, selection of a bargaining agent etc. will, for obvious reasons, have to be settled with reference to the pro-

visions of the Industrial Relations Bill, 1978, on its enactment. Similarly, in regard to workers' participation in management it would be appropriate to await the report of the Committee on Workers Participation in Management and Equity set up by the Ministry of Labour, and Government decisions thereon. The suggestions contained in the Report on Expansion of Steel Industry have been taken into account by the Working Group on Iron and Steel set up by the Planning Commission to formulate the Rolling Plan/Five Year Plan for the period, 1978—83.

Introduction of "Rajdhanir Chiti" by A.I.R., Calcutta

105. SHRI SACHINDRA LAL SINGHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether A.I.R. Calcutta introduced 'Rajdhanir Chiti' every Saturday with the contribution of Delhi based correspondents;

(b) if so, the names of the correspondents whose contribution was sought for during the current year and read out, date-wise;

(c) the details of the amount paid to the Delhi based journalist date-wise during the last one year;

(d) whether, it is a fact that programme has become popular in A.I.R., Calcutta;

(e) if so, whether this programme will be introduced at other Radio Stations particularly Silchar and Agartala; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir. The weekly feature 'Rajdhanir Chiti' was introduced with effect from 7th May, 1977.

(b) Information about names of the Journalists who contributed "Rajdhanir Chiti" during the year 1979 is given in Statement-I laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3267/79].

(c) The details of the amounts paid to the Journalist during 1978 for contribution of Rajdhanir Chiti Script are given in Statement-II laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3267/79].

(d) There is no data available yet about the popularity or otherwise of the programme "Rajdhanir Chiti".

(e) and (f). There is no such proposal at present. However, data are being collected about the popularity of the programme. The question of introducing similar programmes from other stations could be considered in due course in the light of a review of the utility and popularity of the programme.

C.I.S. Officers working on an ad-hoc basis

106. SHRI SACHINDRA LAL SINGHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of officers of the Central Information Service in various grades are holding posts on an *ad-hoc* basis and have so far not been regularised;

(b) if so, what is the number of such officers in each grade as on the 15th November, 1978, along with the reasons for their holding posts on *ad-hoc* basis;

(c) when was the last meeting of the DPC for each grade held and what was the number of officers regularised; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to minimise making of *ad-hoc* promotions in the service?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b). A statement showing number of officers holding

posts on *ad-hoc* basis as on 15-11-79, in each grade of CIS, is placed at statement-I laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3268/79].

(c) A statement giving information is at Statement-II laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3268/79].

(d) Steps have been taken to hold DPCs at regular intervals and also to take final decision about direct recruitment to various grades so that *ad-hoc* appointments are minimised.

Dailies published from Agartala

107. SHRI SACHINDRA LAL SINGHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the dailies published from Agartala;

(b) whether it is a fact that they receive P.I.B. materials after 24 hours back behind New Delhi;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the action taken up to date for early delivery of the PIB materials to these papers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI JAGBIR SINGH): (a) On the basis of the annual returns submitted to the Registrar of Newspapers, a statement containing the names of dailies published from Agartala as on 31st December, 1977 is attached.

(b) to (d). The PIB material is simultaneously released to the various offices of the Press Information Bureau for transmission to the newspaper. Agartala receives material both by teleprinter and by air bag. The teleprinter line to Agartala from Calcutta is via Shillong, which gets disrupted now and then. The air bag to Agartala also goes from Calcutta, in the first available flight. Therefore, on occasions, Agartala receives material late due to these unavoidable reasons. Efforts are, however, constantly, being made to ensure that Agartala receives the material as quickly as possible.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Dailies	Language
1.	Bhabi Baharat	Bengali
2.	Dainik Ganadoot	Do.
3.	Dainik Promode Barta	Do.
4.	Dainik Sambad	Do.
5.	Ganaraj	Do.
6.	Gana Sambad Patrika	Do.
7.	Jagran	Do.
8.	Janapad	Do.
9.	Syandan	Do.
10.	Tripura Darpan	Do.
11.	Vivek	Do.

Reorganisation of steel scrap processing industry

108. SHRI SARAT KAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to re-organise the steel scrap processing industry and place it on a sound foundation, recognising its labour intensive character; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the programme of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A suggestion that scrap processors/dealers should be brought under the Industrial Licensing Policy is under consideration of the Government. While it is felt that it will not be possible to bring the dealers under the Industrial Licensing Policy, the possibility of bringing scrap processing within the purview of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, is under examination.

Demand and supply of coal

109. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the representatives of various Chambers of Commerce, Industries and Railways was held in the mid of January, 1979 to coordinate the demand and supply of coal; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). There was a meeting on the thirtieth January, 1979 at Calcutta organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry which was attended by the representatives of the Coal Industry, Railways and member organisations of the aforesaid Chamber. There were detailed discussions at this meeting on mutual problems and remedial measures necessary for improving coal supplies to the consuming sectors.

Insecticide Unit in Andhra Pradesh

110. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved an insecticide unit at Kovvur in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This project will be a joint venture of Hindustan Inseticides Limited (a public sector unit of the Government of India) with the State Agro-Industries Corporations of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, for the manufacture of 3300 tonnes per annum of 26 per cent gamma BHC technical and its formulations. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 487 lakhs. In the Company to be set up for the implementation of this project, Hindustan Insecticides Limited will hold 51 per cent of equity capital, the remaining 49 per cent to be contributed equaliy by the participating State Agro Industries Corporations.

Autonomous Society for Training in Power Section

111. SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to bring the four thermal personnel training institutes of the Central Electricity Authority at Neyveli, Durgapur, Delhi and Nagpur under the management of an autonomous Society to function as an apex body which will plan, coordinate and direct the requirements of training in power section; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A proposal to reorganise the Thermal Power Station Personnel Institutes set up by the Central Electricity Authority into an Autonomous Society is under active consideration of the Government. The proposed Society will function as the apex national body for fulfilling the

training requirements of the power sector in the country by co-ordinating the training programmes of the various utilities and supplementing the same with its own training activities. The Society will function through a Governing Council which will have broad based representation, including persons from allied fields and disciplines and representatives of the Ministry of Energy, Finance and Central Electricity Authority etc.

Shortage of fuel oil in Sindri Modernisation Project

112. SHRI NARENDRA SINH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to shortage of field stock fuel oil the Sindri modernisation project is not likely to go into full production in the near future;

(b) if so, steps proposed to be taken to make fuel oil available; and

(c) expected time by which the projects likely to go into full production?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Adequate arrangements are being made for the transportation of fuel oil from Haldia to Sindri to meet the Project's requirements.

(c) Commercial production from the project is expected to commence by June/July, 1979.

Recommendations of the Committee on MRTP

113. SHRI NARENDRA SINH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the basis of the recommendation of the High Power Committee on MRTP Government propose to bring forward legislation in Parliament in near future;

(b) if so, specific recommendation on which legislation is proposed to be brought before Parliament; and

(c) expected time in which it is to be brought?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) to (c). The recommendations of the High Powered Expert Committee on Companies and M.R.T.P. Acts relate to many aspects of the working of both these enactments. The entire Report of the Committee is now under Government's consideration and such of the Committee's recommendations which are of an urgent nature and are accepted by Government will be given effect to by bringing amending legislation, if practicable, during the current budget session of the Parliament.

Autonomy for Radio and T.V.

114. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided not to give full autonomy for Radio and T.V.; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Government's policy is to convert Akashvani and Doordarshan into functionally autonomous bodies consistent with the requirements of financial and parliamentary accountability.

Taking over of Drug Industry

115. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:
SHRI C. R. MAHATA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take over the drug industry; and

(b) if so, when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Nationalisation has to be based on policy considerations of a general or special nature. Government have already taken a view on this after a comprehensive review of the Hathi Committee Report.

सैनिकों के लिए मकानों पर खर्च

116. डा. रामजी सिंह : क्या उप प्रधान मंत्री तथा रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आगामी पांच वर्षों में सैनिकों के लिए मकान बनाने पर कितनी धनराशि खर्च करने का सरकार का विचार है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार मकान बनाने के लिए भूतपूर्व सैनिकों को कोई विशेष रियायत देगी ;

(ग) जवानों और अधिकारियों को आवास उपलब्ध कराने पर सरकार किराये के रूप में प्रतिवर्ष कुल कितनी धनराशि खर्च करती है; और

(घ) क्या सैनिक अधिकारियों के लिए मकान विशेष क्षेत्रों में नहीं होने चाहिए ?

उप प्रधान मंत्री तथा रक्षा मंत्री (श्री जगजीवनराम) : (क) धन उपलब्ध होने पर लगभग 200 करोड़ रुपये खर्च किये जाने की आशा है ।

(ख) अधिकतर राज्य सरकारों ने भूतपूर्व सैनिकों/युद्ध हताहतों / युद्ध के फलस्वरूप होने वाली विधवाओं के लिए मकान बनाने के प्लाटों/फ्लैटों का आरक्षण, मुफ्त प्लाट प्रदान करना अथवा रियायती दरों पर मकान के प्लाट बेचने जैसी विभिन्न रियायतें देने के लिए योजनाएं बना रखी हैं ।

(ग) प्रति वर्ष लगभग 3 करोड़ रुपये

(घ) जहां तक सम्भव होता है, सैनिक अधिकारियों के लिए मकान विशेष क्षेत्रों में होते हैं, जैसे छावनियों और उन सैनिक स्टेशनों पर जहां उनकी यूनिटें आदि स्थित होती हैं । जहां ऐसे क्षेत्रों में आवास की कमी होती है या जहां रक्षा मंत्रालय की अधीनस्थ स्थापनाएं और कार्यालय छावनियों अथवा सैनिक स्टेशनों से बाहर स्थित होते हैं । वहां सैनिक अधिकारियों के लिए सिविल कस्बों में मकान किराये पर लेने ही पड़ते हैं ।

Selection of Accredited Correspondents for Tour

117. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Information Officers have been selecting accredited correspondents for various tours arranged by different Ministries;

(b) whether these Information Officers have been selecting correspondents who are opposed to prohibition; and

(c) whether these Information Officers who accompany these tours also participate in the Drinking parties?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) When Ministries sponsor Press tours, they decide about the correspondents to be taken. The Information Officers attached to the Ministries, at best, offer suggestions, if asked, about the selection.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such complaint has so far been received.

इस्पात के मूल्यों में वृद्धि

118. **डा. रामजी सिंह** : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान समाचार-पत्रों में प्रकाशित इन समाचारों की ओर दिलाया गया है कि इस्पात के उद्योगपतियों को प्रसन्न करने के लिए इस्पात के मूल्य में वृद्धि कर दी गई है; और

(ख) क्या बिहार में किसी स्थान पर कोई नया इस्पात संयंत्र लगाने का प्रस्ताव है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री (कड़िया मुण्डा) : (क) इस्पात के मूल्यों में वृद्धि इस्पात के उद्योगपतियों को प्रसन्न करने के लिए नहीं बल्कि मुख्य रूप से निम्नलिखित कारणों से की गई थी :—

1. उत्पादन लागत में हुई वृद्धि को पूरा करना ;
2. उत्पादकों को उचित लाभ सुनिश्चित करना ;
3. कुछ समय से औसत दूरी में वृद्धि हो जाने के कारण भाड़े के बोझ में हुई वृद्धि को पूरा करना; और
4. इस्पात उद्योग के आधुनिकीकरण, प्रतिस्थापन और विकास के लिए पर्याप्त संसाधन जुटाना तथा बजट पर निर्भरता को कम करना ।

(ख) इस समय ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

औषधियों के मूल्य में कमी

119. **डा. रामजी सिंह** : क्या पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत वर्ष 354 औषधियों के मूल्य में कमी करने के परिणामस्वरूप लोगों का कुल कितने करोड़ रुपये की बचत होने की सम्भावना है;

(ख) क्या विद्यार्थियों और समाज के कमजोर वर्गों को कम कीमत पर औषधियां सप्लाई करने का सरकार का कोई प्रस्ताव है और यदि नहीं तो क्या इस प्रस्ताव पर विचार किया जाएगा;

(ग) क्या सरकार एलोपेथिक औषधियों के साथ-साथ आयुर्वेदिक औषधियों की शुद्धता और मूल्य नियंत्रण सुनिश्चित करने के प्रस्ताव पर विचार करेंगी; और

(घ) क्या सरकार की कोई राष्ट्रीय औषध नीति है और यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) सल्फागुनिडाइन, डोक्सीसाइक्लीन, जैण्टामाइसीन, क्लोरमफैनीकल पाउडर, आक्सी टैटासाइक्लीन, उसके लवण और डिराइवेटिव्स, फेनोबारबिटोन और अनलजिन जैसे महत्वपूर्ण बल्क औषधों पर आधारित फार्मूलेशनों के 352 पैकों के मूल्यों में 20/28 दिसम्बर, 1978 से की गई कटौती के परिणाम स्वरूप लोगों द्वारा बचाई जाने वाली संभावित राशि का कोई मूल्यांकन नहीं किया गया है । प्रमुख उत्पादों के उपरोक्त बल्क औषधों पर आधारित ब्राण्ड नाम वाले महत्वपूर्ण फार्मूलेशनों के मूल्यों में कटौती की प्रतिशतता निम्न प्रकार भिन्न-भिन्न है :—

क्रम सं०	निर्माता का नाम	औषध का नाम	ब्राण्ड नाम वाले महत्वपूर्ण फार्मूलेशन जिसके मूल्यों में 20-12-78 से कटौती की गई थी	प्रतिशत कटौती
1.	फाइजर	आक्सीटेट्रासाइक्लीन इसके लवण और डिराइवेटिव्स	टैरामाइसीन	0.5 प्रतिशत से 14 प्रतिशत तक
2.	आई०डी०पी०एल०	डोक्सीसाइक्लीन	विब्रोसाइक्लीन	16 प्रतिशत से 18 प्रतिशत
3.	डोलफिन	डोन्सीसाइक्लीन	डोकस्ट	20 प्रतिशत
4.	आई०डी०पी०एल०	सल्फागुनाडाइन	सल्फागुनिडाइन	13 प्रतिशत से 16 प्रतिशत तक
5.	इंडियन शायरिंग	जैन्टामाइसीन	जैन्टीसिन	10 प्रतिशत से 43 प्रतिशत तक
6.	सी० फुलफोर्ड	जैन्टामाइसीन	गारामाइसीन	10 से 41 तक
7.	पार्क डेविस	क्लोराफनिकोल	क्लोरामाइसिटिन	1 प्रतिशत से 9 प्रतिशत तक

अन्टामाइसीन पर आधारित फार्मूलेशन के मूल्यों में सरकार द्वारा 15 फरवरी, 1979 से और कटौती की गई है।

(ख) छात्रों और समाज के कमजोर वर्ग को कम मूल्य पर औषधों की सप्लाई करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन नहीं है।

(ग) औषध (मूल्य नियंत्रण) आदेश 1970 के अन्तर्गत आयुर्वेदिक दवाइयों (सिद्धा सहित) और यूनानी (तिब्ब) पद्धति की दवाईयों पर मूल्य नियंत्रण नहीं है। नई मूल्य निर्धारण नीति में भी इन दवाईयों के मूल्यों पर नियंत्रण लगाने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है। इस नीति के बारे में सरकार के निर्णय को दर्शाने वाला विवरण पत्र 29 मार्च, 1978 को लोक सभा पटल पर प्रस्तुत किया गया था।

आयुर्वेदिक (सिद्धा सहित) और यूनानी (तिब्ब) तथा एलोपैथिक दवाईयां औषध और सौन्दर्य प्रसाधन अधिनियम 1940 और उसके अन्तर्गत बने नियमों के अधिकार क्षेत्र में आती हैं। आयुर्वेदिक और एलोपैथिक औषधों की किस्म पर लाइसेंसिंग और निरीक्षण की पद्धति के माध्यम से नियंत्रण रखा जाता है आयुर्वेदिक दवाईयों के निर्माण के लिए राज्य लाइसेंसिंग प्राधिकरण द्वारा इस बात से संतुष्ट होने पर लाइसेंस जारी किए जाते हैं कि लाइसेंस लेने वाला उमीदवार स्थान, उपकरण और तकनीकी ज्ञान से सम्बन्धित आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करता है। औषध और सौन्दर्य प्रसाधन अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत लाइसेंस देने के बाद भी लाइसेंस धारी को लाइसेंस की कुछ प्रचलित शर्तों को पूरा करना पड़ता है। आयुर्वेदिक दवाईयों का निर्माण अधिनियम की प्रथम अनुसूची में दर्शाए गए प्राधिकृत पुस्तकों में निर्धारित मूल के अनुसार करना पड़ता है।

(घ) नई औषध नीति पर सरकार के निर्णय को दर्शाने वाला एक विवरण पत्र 29 मार्च, 1978 को लोक सभा पटल पर प्रस्तुत किया गया था।

Estimated needs of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

120. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated needs of Petroleum and Petroleum products towards the end of the current financial year;

(b) how much of the same are met from indigenous production;

(c) arrangements made for meeting the rest of the requirements;

(d) have the current developments in Iran affected the imports of Iranian crude/Petrol from that country; and

(e) if so, alternative arrangements made to face the additional shortages of petrol and petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) The total requirement of crude oil and petroleum products during the year 1978-79 is estimated to be 26.4 million tonnes and 28.2 million tonnes respectively.

(b) Indigenous production of crude is expected to be around 11.36 million tonnes and the balance of about 15.02 million tonnes is to be imported. Besides crude import, the deficit in respect of certain petroleum products which is expected to be about 3.5 million tonnes, is proposed to be met by imports.

(c) Apart from long term contracts finalised for the import of crude and deficit petroleum products, spot purchases in international markets are also being made in the case of crude oil and petroleum products.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Apart from obtaining additional supplies of crude oil and petroleum products from friendly countries, efforts are also made by Indian Oil Corporation to obtain them by spot purchases from international market.

Production of Coal

121. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of coal has lagged behind

schedule during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the extent of short-fall;

(c) figures of production of coal for 1978-79 and two previous financial years; and

(d) the reasons for the short-fall in production and measures taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c). The production of coal in the first 10 months of the current year, i.e. from April '78 to January '79 was 81.46 million tonnes against the original target of 113.5 million tonnes for the whole year. The figures of production in 1976-77 and 1977-78 were 101.04 million tonnes and 101.18 million tonnes respectively.

(d) Frequent power interruption, shortage of explosives, industrial unrest, large scale absenteeism of miners and loaders in the coalfields, a prolonged strike in the Singareni Collieries in April and May '78 and flooding of a number of mines in Bengal-Bihar coalfields in September '78 due to very heavy rains were the main reasons for the shortfall in production.

Regular coordination is maintained with power houses supplying power to the coalfield areas to avoid frequent interruptions in supply. DVC are treating coal mines as priority consumers next to Railways, for power supply. Import of explosives has been arranged to avoid its shortage. With the dewatering of almost all the flooded mines, the production has started picking up.

T.V. Station at Bangalore

122. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) reasons why a T.V. Station has not yet been opened at Bangalore;

(b) when is a T.V. Station expected to be opened at Bangalore keeping in view the fact that Bangalore is a major centre of activity in different fields in the South, apart from being the capital of Karnataka; and

(c) what is the scheduled programme of opening new T.V. Stations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Due to financial constraints it was not possible to set up a TV Centre at Bangalore earlier.

(b) During the Sixth Five Year Plan period.

(c) Following are the proposals under consideration for implementation during the Sixth Plan period:

Full-fledged TV Centres:

1. Ahmedabad (Gujarat)
2. Bangalore (Karnataka)
3. Trivandrum (Kerala)

T.V. Relay Centres:

1. Ajmer (Rajasthan)
2. Cuttack (Orissa)
3. Panaji (Goa, Daman and Diu)
4. Jammu (Jammu & Kashmir)
5. Madurai (Tamil Nadu)
6. Murshidabad (West Bengal)
7. Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)
8. Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)

Note (1): Relay Centres at Asansol (West Bengal) and Kasauli (Himachal Pradesh) which are approved schemes of earlier Plan are also being taken up for implementation.

Note (2): A full-fledged TV Centre already under construction at Jullundur is to be commissioned in April, 1979.

Outstandings against Kalinga Tubes

123. SHRI RAM DHARI SHASTRI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the outstandings against Kalinga Tubes Ltd. increased from Rs. 181 lakhs to Rs. 287 lakhs;

(b) if so, why;

(c) what is the policy of Government in this regard;

(d) is it true that some Indian parties whose past record has not been very clear are involved in the steel imports; and

(e) if yes, what are the names of those parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Presumably the reference is to the outstandings against M/s. Kalinga Tubes Limited due to Steel Authority of India Ltd. If so, the outstandings, exclusive of interest, which stood at Rs. 181 lakhs as on 31-3-1977, had gone up to Rs. 287 lakhs as on 30-9-1977. These have since come down to Rs. 203 lakhs as on 31-1-1979, and are fully secured by an irrevocable bank guarantee. The outstandings are on account of supply of certain steel materials on credit for commercial considerations.

(c) This is a matter to be decided entirely by Steel Authority of India Limited.

(d) and (e). The current year's import policy provides for import of several categories of steel directly by eligible actual users under Open General Licence as well as under licences issued by the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports. In respect of canalised categories, imports are made directly by the public sector canalising agencies viz., Steel Authority of India Limited, Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited and Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited.

प्रत्येक राज्य में बिजली उत्पादन

124. **श्री जगन्नाथ जायसवाल :**

श्री पी० के० कोडियन :

क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चालू वित्तीय वर्ष के पहले छः महीनों में बिजली उत्पादन की स्थिति स्थिर रही है जब कि 1978-79 के लिए उत्पादन में 10 प्रतिशत वृद्धि करने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) वर्ष 1978-79 के प्रथम छः महीनों में प्रत्येक राज्य में बिजली का कितना उत्पादन किया गया; और

(घ) वर्ष 1978-79 में उत्पादन में 10 प्रतिशत वृद्धि के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के उद्देश्य से सरकार द्वारा क्या उपचारात्मक कार्यवाही की जाएगी ?

ऊर्जा मंत्री (श्री पी० रामचन्द्रन) : : (क) जी नहीं । अप्रैल-सितम्बर, 1978 के पहले छः महीनों के दौरान हुआ ऊर्जा का वास्तविक उत्पादन पिछले वर्ष इसी अवधि में उत्पन्न हुई ऊर्जा से 13.31 प्रतिशत अधिक था ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ..

(ग) अप्रैल-सितम्बर, 1978 की अवधि के दौरान प्रत्येक राज्य प्रणाली में उत्पन्न हुई ऊर्जा को दिखाने वाला विवरण उपाबन्ध में दिया गया है ।

(घ) उम्मीद है कि वर्ष 1978-79 के दौरान ऊर्जा का उत्पादन पिछले वर्ष के अर्थात् वर्ष 1977-78 के दौरान हुए ऊर्जा के उत्पादन से लगभग 12 प्रतिशत बढ़ जाएगा ।

विवरण

अप्रैल से सितम्बर, 1978 तक की अवधि के दौरान यूटिलिटी क्षेत्र में तथा विद्युत, परमाणु विद्युत तथा जल विद्युत से हुए राज्यवार/प्रणालीवार कुल विद्युत् उत्पादन को दिखाने वाला विवरण।

(सभी आंकड़े मिलियन यूनिट में हैं)

क्रम सं०	राज्य/प्रणाली	उत्पादित ऊर्जा
1	2	3
1.	भाखड़ा	3563
2.	व्यास	1661
3.	हिमाचल प्रदेश	157
4.	जम्मू तथा काश्मीर	240
5.	दिल्ली	1380
6.	हरियाणा	166
7.	पंजाब	714
8.	राजस्थान	454
9.	उत्तर प्रदेश	5411
10.	गुजरात	3683
11.	मध्य प्रदेश	2629
12.	महाराष्ट्र	8754
13.	आंध्र प्रदेश	3083
14.	कर्नाटक	2775
15.	केरल	2428
16.	तमिल नाडु	4597
17.	बिहार	1219
18.	दामोदर घाटी निगम	2649
19.	उड़ीसा	1496
20.	पश्चिम बंगाल	2585
21.	उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र	453
	अखिल भारत	50097

तापीय बिजलीघरों को बिजली उत्पादन क्षमता का पूरा उपयोग न किया जाना

125. **श्री अनन्तराम जायसवाल** : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) क्या प्रतिष्ठापित क्षमता का पूरा उपयोग न किए जाने के कारण वर्ष 1978–79 की प्रथम छिमाई में तापीय बिजली उत्पादन को धक्का लगा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1975–76, 1976–77, 1977–78 और 1978–79 की प्रथम छिमाई में बिजली का कितना उत्पादन हुआ ;

(ग) वर्ष 1977–78 और वर्ष 1978–79 की प्रथम छिमाई में बिजली उत्पादन क्षमता का कम उपयोग करने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) वर्ष 1978–79 की प्रथम छिमाई में 1976–77 और 1977–78 में इसी अवधि की तुलना में सभी तापीय बिजली घरों और प्रमुख तापीय बिजली घरों में बिजली उत्पादन की कितनी क्षमता का उपयोग किया गया ?

ऊर्जा मंत्री (श्री पी० रामचन्द्रन) : (क) विद्युत् ऊर्जा की कुल मांग, परमाणु विद्युत् केन्द्रों से हुए उत्पादन के अलावा, ताप विद्युत् तथा जल विद्युत् केन्द्रों से हुए उत्पादन द्वारा पूरी की जाती है। 1978–79 के प्रथम छः महीनों के दौरान ताप विद्युत् केन्द्रों से उत्पादन कम हुआ है तथा अच्छा मानसून होने के कारण, जल विद्युत् साधनों से हुआ ऊर्जा उत्पादन लक्ष्य से अधिक रहा।

(ख) ताप विद्युत् उत्पादन यूनिटों का अखिल भारतीय संयंत्र भार अनुपात (क्षमता समुपयोजन) निम्नानुसार है :—

वर्ष	संयंत्र भार अनुपात (प्रतिशतता)
1975–76 . .	52.1
1976–77 . .	56.0
1977–78 . .	50.8
1978–79 . . (अप्रैल–सितम्बर)	47.25

(ग) पिछले वर्षों के मुकाबले में 1977–78 के दौरान कम संयंत्र भार अनुपात मुख्यतः उस वर्ष जबरन बन्दियों की दर में वृद्धि के कारण हुआ। जबरन बन्दियों की दर में वृद्धि का मुख्य कारण था उस वर्ष काफी संख्या में ताप उत्पादन यूनिटों का लम्बी अवधि तक जबरन बन्द रहना। वर्ष 1978–79 के प्रथम छः महीनों के दौरान ताप विद्युत् उत्पादन यूनिटों के कम समुपयोजन के कारण प्रश्न के भाग 'क' के उत्तर में दिए गए हैं।

(घ) देश के प्रमुख ताप विद्युत् केन्द्रों का वर्ष 1976–77 से वर्ष 1978–79 तक के वर्षों में अप्रैल, से सितम्बर, तक की अवधि का क्षमता समुपयोजन दिखाने वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है। [ग्रंथालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या एल–टी–3269 /79]।

सिन्दरी उर्वरक कारखाने का बन्द होना

126. **श्री अनन्तराम जायसवाल** : क्या **पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक** मंत्री 21 नवम्बर, 1978 के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 27 के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सिन्दरी उर्वरक कारखाने को बन्द करने का निर्णय कब और किन परिस्थितियों में लिया गया ;

(ख) जनवरी, 1978 से अक्तूबर, 1978 तक की अवधि में गत वर्ष इसी अवधि की तुलना में नामरूप, दुर्गापुर, ट्राम्बे और राउरकेला उर्वरक कारखानों में उत्पादन में कमी आने के क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) सरकारी और गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्रों में नाइट्रोजन और फास्फेट उर्वरक कारखानों की अलग-अलग प्रतिष्ठापित क्षमता कितनी है और वर्ष 1975, 1976 और 1977 में क्रमश: कितने प्रतिशत क्षमता का उपयोग किया गया; और

(घ) सरकारी और गैर-सरकारी नाइट्रोजन और फास्फेट उर्वरक कारखानों में पृथक्-पृथक् कुल कितना विनियोजन किया गया और 1975, 1976 और 1977 में दोनों क्षेत्रों ने अलग-अलग कुल कितना शुद्ध लाभ अर्जित किया और वर्ष 1978 में कितना शुद्ध लाभ अर्जित करने की सम्भावना है ।

पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) एफ० सी० आई० का सिन्दरी एकक 1951 से उत्पादन कर रहा है। और इसे अधिकांश उपकरण पुराने पड़ गए हैं। सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से इन उपकरणों को चलाना खतरनाक है। अत: एफ० सी० आई० के प्रबन्धकों ने 19 फरवरी, 1978 से कारखाने के कुछ खण्डों को बन्द करने का निर्णय किया था। इन खण्डों को बन्द करने से अमोनिया के उत्पादन पर कोई प्रभाव नहीं पड़ा है। जिसका प्रयोग इस समय अमोनियम नाइट्रेट जसे औद्योगिक उत्पादों के उत्पादन के लिए किया जा रहा है। सिन्दरी आधुनिकीकरण योजना के चालू हो जाने से, जिसका कार्यान्वयन पुराने प्लांट का नवीकरण करने के लिए किया जा रहा है, इस कारखाने में उर्वरकों का पुन: उत्पादन आरम्भ हो जाएगा।

(ख) प्रश्न में उल्लिखित प्लांटों में वर्ष 1977 की तदनुरूपी अवधि की तुलना में जनवरी-अक्तूबर 1978 के दौरान उत्पादन में कमी के मुख्य कारण निम्न प्रकार हैं :—

एकक का नाम	कमी के कारण
नामरूप	यांत्रिक खराबी
दुर्गापुर	श्रमिक समस्या, यांत्रिक खराबी और बिजली फेल
ट्राम्बे	उपकरणों की खराबी
राऊरकेला	इस्पात कारखाने से कोक-ओवन गैस की कमी।

(ग) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान सरकारी और गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र के खाद-कारखानों की स्थापित क्षमता और क्षमता का उपयोग निम्न प्रकार रहा :

	स्थापित क्षमता (000' टन)		क्षमता का उपयोग (प्रतिशत)	
	एन०	पी०	एन०	पी०
(i) सरकारी क्षेत्र				
1975–76	1187	196	65.2	61.9
1976–77	1391	228	69.5	68.3
1977–78	1547	342	59.6	74.6
(ii) गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र				
1975–76	1107	369	75.9	47.5
1976–77	1270	435	76.5	68.3
1977–78	1270	435	76.2	69.8

(घ) अनेक खाद कारखानों से सूचना एकत्र की जानी है। सूचना एकत्र करके सभा पटल पर प्रस्तुत की जाएगी।

Shortage of Coal

127. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI P. M. SAYEED:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:
SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was acute shortage of coal in the month of December 1978 and January 1979 which has resulted in closure of mills in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the extent of the shortage and the main reasons therefor;

(c) to what extent the position has improved; and

(d) the agencies that were affected by the shortage of coal and how far their position has improved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (d). There was no shortage of coal with the coal companies in December 1978 and January 1979. There were some reports about shortage of coal with certain consumers mainly textiles, fertilisers, and small consumers which are given lower priority for movement of coal by rail. With further improvement in production and availability of wagons, the supply position may ease.

Agreement for Import of Kerosene and Diesel Oil from Soviet Union

128. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI P. M. SAYEED:
SHRI A. R. BADRINARAYAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in December 1978 an agreement for the import of kerosene and diesel oil from the Soviet Union has been signed;

(b) if so, what are the main features of agreement;

(c) what will be the total quantity of diesel oil and kerosene oil to be supplied to India during 1979;

(d) whether this will be enough for the requirement of India; and

(e) what was the total quantity supplied during 1978?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir. A contract was signed between the Indian Oil Corporation and SOJUZNE FTEEXPORT(SNE) of Soviet Union on the 22nd December, 1978, for the supply of Kerosene and High Speed Diesel Oil during 1979.

(b) and (c). The contract provides for supply of 1.2 million tonnes of Kerosene and 0.4 million tonnes of High Speed Diesel Oil (HSD) during 1979. It would not be in the commercial interest of Indian Oil Corporation as also contrary to international practices to disclose further details.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) USSR had supplied 9.15 lakh MT of Kerosene and 5.13 lakh MT of High Speed Diesel (HSD) during 1978.

Disruption of Crude Supply from Iran

129. DR. BIJOY MONDAL:
SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI SHANKER SINGHJI VAGHELA:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRA SHEKHRA MURTHY:
SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated steps to enable the country to tide over the problem of disruption of crude supplies from Iran;

(b) if so, what urgent steps were taken to secure oil supplies during 1979;

(c) what are the countries approached;

(d) what are the conditions imposed by them;

(e) what was the total crude oil obtained in November and December 1978 and from which countries; and

(f) what is the total quantity likely to be imported during 1979?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Following the disruption in Iranian crude oil supplies from end October, 1978 urgent steps were initiated to procure the country's requirements of imported crude from alternative sources of supply.

(b) Contracts covering crude supplies during 1979 were entered into with our other sources of supply viz. Iraq, Saudi Arabia, UAE and U.S.S.R. It was possible to secure an enhancement in the quantum of crude purchases from Iraq and UAE during 1979, as compared to quantities obtained from them in earlier years. In addition, spot purchases of crude oil from the market have been organised for meeting the requirements during the period January—March, 1979.

(c) The countries approached include Iraq, Saudi Arabia, U.A.E., U.S.S.R., Indonesia, Nigeria, Alegeria, Libya Qatar and Oman.

(d) No conditions have been imposed by them other than what can be termed commercial considerations.

(e) Crude Oil liftings during November and December, 1978 source-wise is shown below:—

(*Qty in MTs*)

Supplier/Source	November 1978	December 1978	Total
IRAQ	6,22,574	7,80,416	14,02,990
U.S.S.R.	1,74,832	1,38,859	3,13,691
SAUDI ARABIA	86,762	57,980	1,44 742
IRAN	53,460	99,740	1,53,200
UAE	91,904	89,600	1,82,504
	10,29,532	11,66,595	21,96,127
EXXON (SAUDI ARABIA)	87,000	1,53,000	2,40,000
DA IUS CRUDE FROM IRAN FOR MADRAS REFINERY	63,000	Nil	63,000

(f) Crude imports during 1979 are expected to be of the order of 16.5 Million Tonnes.

Corporation for A.I.R. and Television

130. DR. BIJOY MONDAL:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI SHANKER SINGHJI VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision to set up a Corporation for A.I.R. and Television of the country;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(c) the time by which these will be converted into Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The recommendations of the Working Group on Autonomy for Akashvani and Doordarshan on the future set-up of the two organisations are under examination.

(c) A Bill on the future set-up of the two organisations is likely to be introduced in the Parliament in the current Session.

Issue of Letter of Intent to M/s. J.K. Industries for manufacturing Carbon Black

131. DR. BIJOY MONDAL:
SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR GUPTA:
SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. J. K. Industries were issued a letter of intent to manufacture carbon black from the by-products of the Bongaigaon Petrochemical complex; if so, when;

(b) whether the company has not started manufacturing carbon black at Bongaigaon;

(c) whether the J. K. Industries have since returned the leter of intent and if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) whether any other local party has applied for letter of intent to manufacture carbon black; if so, whether its application has been approved?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir. M/s. J. K. Chemicals Ltd., Bombay, were issued a letter of intent on 6th June, 1977 for the establishment of a new undertaking at Bongaigaon (Assam) for the manufacture of 12,000 tonnes per annum of Carbon Black;

(b) No. Sir; they have not.

(c) No, Sir. They have submitted a formal application for permission to change the location of the plant from Bongaigaon to Ranipet (Tamil Nadu). This application is under the consideration of the Government.

(d) Yes, Sir. The industrial licence application of only one local party, namely, M/s. Union Carbon Black Ltd. Gauhati, has been received on 8-8-1978 for the manufacture of 12,500 tonnes per annum of Carbon Black in the State of Assam.

बेतवा नदी पर ओरछा बहुप्रयोजनीय परियोजना

132. **श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण नायक :** क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री 30 अगस्त, 1978 के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 4995 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से बेतवा नदी पर ओरछा बहुप्रयोजनीय परियोजना के सम्बन्ध में परियोजना प्रतिवेदन के दो सेट (बिना नक्शों के दो खंडों में अथवा भागों में) केन्द्रीय जल आयोग को प्राप्त हो गये थे और क्या केन्द्रीय जल आयोग तथा अन्य सम्बन्धित प्राधिकरण में एक साथ परियोजना प्रतिवेदन पर सम्यक दृष्टि से विचार करने हेतु राज्य प्राधिकारियों से प्राप्त होने वाले सम्पूर्ण परियोजना प्रतिवेदन की अतिरिक्त प्रतियां इस बीच प्राप्त हो गयी हैं और यदि नहीं, तो इन प्रतियों के लिये राज्य प्राधिकारियों को कब लिखा गया था; और

(ख) क्या सरकार इस प्रकार के प्रयास करेगी जिनसे उपरोक्त परियोजना प्रतिवेदन तत्काल मंजूर हो जाये।

ऊर्जा मंत्री (श्री पी० रामचन्द्रन) : (क) जी, हां। परियोजना रिपोर्ट के दो सेट, ड्राइंगों के बिना ही, मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से 17 अगस्त, 1978 को प्राप्त हुए थे। दस ऐसे सेट बाद में 29 अगस्त, 1978 को प्राप्त हुए थे। ड्राइंगों वाले खण्ड 30 अगस्त, 1978 को प्राप्त हुए थे।

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश के बीच बेतवा एक अन्तर्राज्यीय नदी है। ओरछा परियोजना से विद्युत उत्पादन के लिये जल की उपलब्धता प्रस्तावित राजघाट परियोजना के प्रतिप्रवाह से छोड़े जाने वाले जल की मात्रा पर तथा उसके स्वरूप पर निर्भर होगी। राजघाट परियोजना उत्तर प्रदेश तथा मध्य प्रदेश का एक संयुक्त उपक्रम है। राजघाट बांध परियोजना के स्वरूप पर अभी निर्णय लिया जाना शेष है तथा ओरछा बहुउद्देश्यीय परियोजना के स्वरूप को अन्तिम रूप उसके बाद ही दिया जा सकता है। केन्द्रीय जल आयोग ने सूचित किया है कि ओरछा परियोजना रिपोर्ट की विस्तृत जांच सम्बन्धित संगठनों में की जा रही है और इस पर प्राप्त होने वाली टिप्पणियों को तुरन्त समेकित कर लिया जाएगा तथा आगे की कार्रवाई के लिए ये टिप्पणियां राज्य प्राधिकारियों को भेज दी जाएंगी।

C.I.S. Officers working as P.I.B. Officers

133. SHRI SACHINDRA LAL SINGHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of officers of the Central Information Service have been in the same post occupying the P.I.B. officers' post in New Delhi for a long period;

(b) if so, the names of the C.I.S. officers of P.I.B. with the time of continuing on same post;

(c) whether it is a fact that C.I.S. officers after being stationed in Delhi have never gone back to any State Capital; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b). A statement showing the number of CIS Officers of various grades working in the same post in PIB for more than five years is attached.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. However, there are instances of officers posted in Delhi not moving out of Delhi for various personal reasons.

Statement

Officers Working in Press Information Bureau for more than Five Years in the same Post.

Sl. No.	Name of the Officer	Designation	Date of Posting
1	Shri A. K. Sengupta	Information Officer	1-3-1973
2	Smt. Meenakshi Ahooja	Research Officer	10-2-1971
3	Shri G. D. Chandan	Information Officer	29-3-1971
4	Shri S. C. Kacktwana	Do.	31-10-1970
5	Shri H. L. Kapoor	Do.	19-5-1971
6	Shri Puran Chand	Do.	20-3-1972
7	Shri Hari Singh	Do.	1-1-1973
8	Shri Harbans Lal	Do.	13-8-1973
9	Shri S. G. Lal	Asstt. Information Officer	4-8-1967
10	Shri B. M. Raturi	Do.	1-12-1966
11	Shri P. K. Kohli	Do.	11-8-1967
12	Shri Desh Bhandu	Do.	13-6-1969
13	Shri V. Narayanaswamy	Do.	6-8-1970
14	Shri G. S. Mishra	Do.	15-2-1971
15	Shri Narendra Sinha	Do.	8-9-1969
16	Smt. Urmila Sudhir	Do.	16-2-1968
17	Shri R. K. Bhatnagar	Do.	15-2-1971
18	Shri C. L. Kalsi	Do.	28-12-1972
19	Shri P. N. Parjan	Do.	1-1-1973
20	Shri M. M. Lall	Do.	16-10-1971

Indo-Romanian Deal

134. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the failure of the projected Indo-Romanian deal for the supply of 45 million tonnes of iron ore over 10 years in return for thermal power plant; and

(b) the composition and findings of the high-level six-member delegation that went to Romania for ascertaining the technical feasibility of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) Negotiations with Romania are still continuing and a final view is yet to be taken.

(b) The expert delegation sent to Romania was composed as under:

(1) Shri H. R. Kulkarni, Member (Thermal), Central Electricity Authority;

(2) Shri L. R. Suri, Chief Engineer, Central Electricity Authority;

(3) SHRI L. J. Sane, Consultant, Department of Power;

(4) SHRI Ramanuj Rai, Chief Engineer, DVC;

(5) Shri S. A. Karekatte, Dy. General Manager, Instrumentation Limited, Kota;

(6) Shri G. L. Pai, Senior Manager, BHEL.

Since the negotiations are yet to be finalised, it would not be in public interest to disclose the findings of the delegation at this stage.

मिट्टी के तेल का उपलब्ध न होना

136. **श्री गंगा भक्त सिंह :**
श्री माधवराव सिंधिया :

क्या **पैट्रोलियम तथा रसायन और उर्वरक** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उन्हें पता है कि गत तीन महीनों में देशभर में जन सामान्य को मिट्टी का तेल उपलब्ध नहीं हुआ जिस से जनता को बड़ी कठिनाई हुई ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो मिट्टी के तेल के अचानक गायब हो जाने के क्या कारण हैं तथा सरकार कब तक मिट्टी का तेल सरलता में उपलब्ध करा सकेगी ; और

(ग) बाजार में सप्लाई करने के लिये बम्बई हाई से कितना मिट्टी का तेल उपलब्ध हो रहा है ?

पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) और (ख) नवम्बर, 1978 से जनवरी, 1979 के महीनों के दौरान पूरे देश में मिट्टी के तेल की वास्तविक बिक्री करीब 1.087 मि० मी० टन थी जबकि आवंटन 1.072 मि० मी० टन था। पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि के दौरान की बिक्री की तुलना में पिछले तीन महीनों के दौरान यह 9 प्रतिशत से अधिक की वृद्धि दर सूचित करता है। इसके अलावा इस अवधि के दौरान अस्थायी आंदोलन की समस्याओं के कारण अन्य विकल्प ईंधनों की कमी के कारण कुछ भागों में मिट्टी के तेल की कमी महसूस की गई। सरकार द्वारा आवंटन के अनुसार राज्यों और केन्द्र शासित क्षेत्रों को मिट्टी के तेल की उपलब्धता को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए हर संभव प्रयत्न किए जा रहे हैं।

(ग) इस समय बम्बई हाई तेल क्षेत्रों से लगभग 5.00 मि० मी० टन प्रति वर्ष की दर से अशोधित तेल की सप्लाई हो रही है। बम्बई हाई क्षेत्र के अशोधित तेल में मिट्टी के तेल की मात्रा लगभग 18.8 प्रतिशत होने का अनुमान है।

विभिन्न कार्यालयों में काम करने वाले नैमित्तिक श्रमिक

137. **श्री गंगा भक्त सिंह :** क्या **सूचना और प्रसारण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 31 दिसम्बर, 1978 को उनके मंत्रालय के विभिन्न कार्यालयों में कितने नैमित्तिक श्रमिक काम कर रहे थे और सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त सबसे पुराना नैमित्तिक श्रमिक कब तक नियमित कर दिया जायेगा और वह कब से काम कर रहा है ; और

(ख) विभिन्न काम पर लगे नैमित्तिक श्रमिकों को कितनी कितनी दैनिक मजदूरी मिलती है और इसका क्या आधार है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) (क) और (ख) : सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और उसको सदन की मेज पर रख दिया जाएगा।

Food Poisoning of Cadets in Naval Dock-Yard

138. SHRI F. P. GAEKWAD:
SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news paper report about 80 apprentice cadets of the Naval Dock-yard School admitted to INS "Ashwini" with symptoms of food poisoning on 20th January, 1979;

(b) if so, persons responsible for not taking proper care and precautions in the mess; and

(c) steps taken to avoid such incidents in the future?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) A message re-

garding the incident was received from the authorities concerned on 21-1-1979. A news item also appeared on 22-1-79.

(b) The case is under investigation and necessary action, if any, will be taken after receipt of final report in the matter.

(c) Detailed instructions on the prevention of food poisoning already exist. The authorities have been instructed to enforce these instructions strictly.

Setting up of Autonomous Radio and Television Unit

139. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a policy decision to set up an autonomous Radio and Television Unit, based broadly on the recommendations of the Verghese Panel's Report on the said subject;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to introduce during this Budget Session a Bill to this effect; and

(c) if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (c). The Report of the Working Group on Autonomy for Akashvani and Doordarshan is under consideration. A Bill on the future set-up of Akashvani and Doordarshan is likely to be introduced in the Budget Session.

Supply of Bombay High Gas to Gujarat

140. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accelerated the steps to provide "Bombay High" gas to the industrial units in Southern and Central Gujarat;

(b) if so, how and when;

(c) if not, why not;

(d) whether Government are aware that quite a few industries are compelled to be shifted to Bombay and elsewhere in Maharashtra, even though the said industries were originally located and sought to be started in Gujarat because of the lack of supply of Bombay High gas in time; and

(e) if so, how are Government tackling and responding to the said situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) A feasibility study on the gas pipeline to Gujarat had been made by ONGC. It further took up additional oceanographic and seabed investigations for exploring an alternate route to a landfall point in Gujarat. A report alongwith views of ONGC has been received by Government in January 1979.

However, since the conducting of the studies/investigations by ONGC, the outlook for the availability of offshore gas has changed considerably for the better as a result of a significant gas strike, North of North Bassein structure and the likelihood of larger reserves in the South Bassein gas field. The estimation of ONGC is that free gas availability would now be much larger than earlier estimated. A firm assessment of gas supplies is being made by ONGC by drilling more wells and a clear picture is likely to emerge by March 1979. On knowing the precise estimates of gas supplies, a review of the sizing and route of the pipeline will be made by ONGC and thereafter a further report will be submitted to Government.

On receipt of this report, a view on the economics, location, time-schedule of completion etc. of the pipeline to

Gujarat would be taken by Government. The time-schedule of completion will, however, be so framed as to synchronise with the development of economic uses of gas in Gujarat.

(b) As explained in reply to part (a) above, on receipt of a further report from ONGC a view on the economics, location time-schedule of completion etc. of the pipeline to Gujarat would be taken by Government. The time-schedule of completion will, however, be so framed as to synchronise with the development of economic uses of gas in Guarat.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply given to part (a) above.

(d) No report has been received by Government in his regard;

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to (d) above.

Demands of civilian employees of Air Force Units, Delhi area

141. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several hundreds of civilian employees in the Air Force Units in Delhi have been recently protesting and demonstrating in order to press their long-standing demands;

(b) if so, broad details of the said demonstrations and of the said demands;

(c) whether Government have taken any concrete steps at responding to and settlement of one or more of these demands;

(d) if so, what are they and with what results; and

(e) if not, why not?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Recommendations of Swaminathan Committee in respect of Industrial Alcohol

142. SHRI KUMARI ANANTHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the key recommendations of Swaminathan Committee in the matter of giving encouragement to industrial alcohol based industries with appropriate technology, have not been implemented; if so, reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to non-implementation of the unanimous recommendations of Jalan Committee for uniformity of levies at a reasonable level, the price charged for industrial alcohol varies from State to State; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to meet the expected demand of 850 million litres of industrial alcohol by 1990?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: (a) The recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee have already been brought to the notice of all the State Governments for appropriate action.

(b) Though the basic selling price of industrial alcohol (rectified spirit) is statutorily fixed under the Ethyl Alcohol (Price Control) Order, the actual selling price differs from State to State on account of levies and duties imposed by the State Governments at different levels. The State Govern-

ments have already been asked to implement the recommendations of the Jalan Committee for bringing about uniformity in levies.

(c) The State Governments have been advised to consider creation of additiontal capacity for the production of alcohol based on surplus molasses available in their State. Government is also encouraging expansion of existing distilleries so that they are able to operate economically.

Programme to finance Small Newspapers

143. SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the Government's declared policy that the Government would finance small newspapers especially language newspapers for establishing printing press and working capital;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to implement such a programme and when can the small newspapers expect long term and short term financial assistance;

(c) whether in view of large scale illiteracy in the country, Government would think of giving subsidies to small language newspapers to take up illiteracy eradication programme; and

(d) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a and b). It is not Government's policy to finance newspapers directly for such purposes. However, at the instance of the Government it has been decided by the Industrial Development Bank of India to grant financial assistance to newspaper industries and hence it should now be possible for newspaper to approach lending Institutions for securing financial assistance.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal to give subsidies to small language newspapers to take up illiteracy eradication programme.

Amendment of Cantonment Act, 1924

144. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have a proposal under consideration to amend the Cantonment Act of 1924? If so, since when;

(b) at what stage the matter stands at present;

(c) whether it is a fact that the All India Conference of 62 Cantonments in India have urged upon the Government since long for the immediate amendment of the Act;

(d) if so, what are their main suggestions and which have been accepted by Government; and

(e) whether Government are likely to bring forth an amending Bill in the Budget Session of Parliament itself?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) and (b). The Government have been considering proposals for amending the Cantonments Act, 1924 for quite some time. At present the proposals are in an advance stage of consideration.

(c) and (d). A conference of the All India Cantonments Board elected mebers met at Kirkee on 24-1-1969 and submitted the following Resolutions regarding amendments to the Cantonments Act:—

(i) Disapproval of the long delay in amendig the Cantonments Act and that whatever amendments have taken place have increased the rights of officials instead of decentralising and democratising the set up;

(ii) Anguish at Vice-Presdents not being allowed to preside over the meetings of the Board in the absence of the President and Military Officers being asked to preside instead;

(iii) The number of elected members in every Board should be increased in the proportion of one elected member for every 30,000 voters. Further the number of nominated members should not be more than 5 in "A" Class Cantonments, 4 in 'B' Class and 2 in 'C' Class, including the Health Officer and Garison Engineer.

(iv) The term of office of elected members be raised from 3 to 5 years as in other local bodies. The President of the Board should be from the elected members and not from the Military side.

The position concerning these Resilutions is as follows:

(i) For carrying out the comprehensive amendments to the Cantonments Act, Government had set up a Task Force in December, 1972 for suggesting amendments after taking into account the representations and suggestions received from various quarters including the public M. Ps. Employees' Associations etc. In the light of the recommendations of the Task Force a comprehensive amending Bill is under preparation keeping in view the over-riding considerations of the health and security of the troops located in Cantonments the contemporary trends in municipal legislation and the need for strengthening the local administration. Further, greater delegation of powers to the Civil Area Coemmitte has also been kept in view.

(ii) Provision is being made in the Act that in case the President is away from the Station for more than 30 days he shall cease to be the President. In such cases the Vice President would preside.

(iii) Provision is being made for maintaining parity in the numbers of elected and nominated members. This has been the practice under executive instructions since 1955.

(iv) The term of office of Board 3 members is proposed to be increased from 3 to 5 years.

(v) In view of the fact that considerations of the health, security and welfare of the Armed Forces are paramount in Cantoments, it has not been possible to accept the suggestion that the President of the Board should be an elected member and not a Military Officer.

(e) The amending Bill will be introduced in Parliament as soon as it is finalised.

Ban on providing Liquor in Parties and on Tours

145. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have advised the Information Officers of various Ministries not to provide liquor to the parties and tours arranged by them;

(b) whether Government are aware that liquor is freely served by the Information Officers to correspondents who are on tour in the Railway Compartments; and

(c) if so, whether any action has been taken against such Information Officers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The rules framed in respect of such press tours prohibit the serving of liquor.

(c) Does not arise.

Production of Cooking Gas and setting up of Bottling Plants

146. SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved IOC's Plan to provide cooking gas to over 17 lakh consumers during the next four years;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to step up production of cooking gas not only to meet the growing demand but also to meet the present demand of cooking gas by consumers;

(c) whether Government propose to take up manufacture of gas cylinders in the public sector; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up bottling plants in various parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Availbility of LPG is expected to improve considerably by 1980-81 with the commissioning of:

(i) Facilities for separation of FG from Bombay High Associated Gas;

(ii) Mathura Refinery;

(iii) Secondary Processing Facilities at Koyali Refinery; and

(iv) Coker Unit of Bongaigaon Refinery.

(c) Gas cylinders are already being manufactured in Public Sector at Hyderabad by Hyderabad Alwyn Metal Works Ltd. There is no proposal under the consideration of my Ministry for manufacture of gas cylinders by Public Sector oil companies.

(d) In order to bottle the large quantity of LPG that will be available as result of commissioning of facilities indicated against (b) above, bottling plants are being planned to be set up in different places of the country.

Iron Ore Pelletisation Plants in the Country

147. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up two iron or pelletisation plants in the country;

(b) if so, what would be the capacity of these two plants and location; and

(c) what would be the estimated cost of each plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) to (c). Government have agreed in principle, to the setting up of two pelletisation plants, each having a capacity of 2 million tonnes per annum with an estimated cost of Rs. 67 crores and Rs. 72 crores at Donimalai and Bailadila respectively.

Mineral Oil in West Bengal

148. SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the conclusion of the digging and drilling that started at Galsi in Burdwan district in search of mineral oils and at what stage it has reached;

(b) whether there is any further programme to continue the operation in future at other places of West Bengal;

(c) whether Government agree with the opinion of the foreign expert that large reserve of natural oils are existing in the State of West Bengal; and

(d) if so, what further plans are proposed by Government to explore the State in search of these natural oils?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Three wells have been drilled on this structure. The first well, Galsi-I was drilled by ISPP (Indo-Stanvac Petroleum Project) prior to 1961. Subsequently, ONGC drilled two wells namely Galsi-2 and Galsi-3 during 1977 and 1978 respectively. None of the wells drilled so far has indicated the presence of oil and/or gas.

(b) Yes. Sir. The ONGC is currently drilling at two places, namely, Radha and Diamond Harbour in West Bengal.

(c) The assessment of the oil prospects of the West Bengal Basin by different foreign experts has not been the same. The opinion of American experts on the basis of the results of the wells drilled by the Indo-Stanvac Petroleum Project in West Bengal has not been favourable. The opinion of Soviet experts had been favourable. However, in spite of the fact that exploration is continuing in the Bengal Basin since 1951, no hydrocarbons in commercial quantities have been discovered there so far. Unless, therefore, any discoveries of hydrocarbons are made, for which efforts are continuing, it is difficult to subscribe to the view that large reserves of oil and gas exist in this Basin.

(d) Apart from continuing the drilling at Radha and Diamond Harbour structures in West Bengal, the ONGC plans to implement the recommendations of the recent Indo-Soviet expert team for conducting seismic surveys in the shallow waters area south of Sagar Island and also plans to conduct precision Gravity Magnetic Surveys in the Calcutta area.

Supply of Paraffin to various States

149. SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the factors that influence Government to fix the State-wise quota of paraffin; and

(b) what are the State-wise quota of paraffin earmarked for the current year (financial) and the actual quota supplied to various States so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) The yearly allocations of indigenous paraffin wax to the States/Union Territories are made on the basis of total expected availability of wax in a particular year and the past upliftment performance of each State.

(b) A statement indicating the quantity of paraffin wax allocated to each State/Union Territories and actual supplies upto 31st December, 1978 is enclosed.

Statement

	Name of the State	Allocation of Paraffin Wax for current year (Financial)	Quantity supplied upto 31-12-1978
		(M.T.)	(M.T.)
1.	Maharashtra & Goa, Daman & Diu	9915	6733
2.	Gujarat and Dadra Nagar Haveli	1178	742
3.	Madhya Pradesh	913	670
4.	West Bengal and Andaman Nocobar Islands	6995	5210
5.	Bihar	1026	782
6.	Orissa	570	363
7.	Andhra Pradesh	1368	1057
8.	Delhi	2564	1824
9.	Uttar Pradesh	3546	2603
10.	Rajasthan	913	683
11.	Haryana	1026	714
12.	Punjab	1368	1004
13.	Himachal Pradesh	118	56
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	209	154
15.	Chandigarh Administration	176	126
16.	Karnataka	913	858
17.	Tamil Nadu	6724	4650
18.	Kerala & Lakshadweep	1554	1283
19.	Pondicherry	118	56
20.	Sikkim	17	8
21.	Assam	1253	915.75
22.	Meghalaya	121	84.00
23.	Nagaland	357	257.00
24.	Manipur	292	212.00
25.	Tripura	399	280.23
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	59	29.5
27.	Mizoram	91	67.00

Pharmaceutical Industry in West Bengal

150. SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Pharmaceutical industry in West Bengal is almost dying due to irregular and in sufficient supply of raw materials;

(b) whether Government have surveyed the situation and are maintaining any records of such affected establishments; and

(c) if so, what remedial steps are in active proposal with Government to revive the industry?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) No, Sir. On the contrary, drug units in West Bengal have generally received higher releases for Canalised Raw Materials during the period 1st April, 1978 to 31st December, 1978, as compared with the corresponding period in the year 1977. Illustratively, this would be seen from the attached Statement showing releases made by State Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Corporation of India Ltd. (CPC) to West Bengal units during the said period.

During the year 1978-79, special efforts were also made to assist drug manufacturers in West Bengal who had problems for raw material supplies. For instance, in the case of Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Works, an immediate release of 500 Kgs. of Chloroquin Phosphate was authorised, pending determination of their entitlement. Similarly, an advance allocation of 2.5 tonnes of Chloroquine Phosphate was also authorised in favour of Bengal Immunity. In the case of Smith Stanistreet and Dey's Medical Store (Mfg.), the allocation of canalised bulk drugs was released to their entitlement as per licensed capacities for various formulations, with the result, that they were allocated more raw materials during the year 1978-79 than in earlier years. An immediate allotment of 2 tonnes of Streptomycin Sulphate was also arranged in favour of Dey's Medical Stores (Mfg.) to enable them to manufacture pharmaceutical preparations required in the wake of the unprecedented flood situation in West Bengal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Item	Releases made during the period 14-77 to 31-12-77 and 1-4-78 to 31-12-78	Qty. Kg.
1.	Chloramphenicol Powder	7830	8745
2.	Chloramphenicol Palmitate	2705	6285
3.	Chloramphenicol Succinate	10	—
4.	Ampicillin Trihydtate	680	1455
5.	Ampicillin Anhydrous	30	1400
6.	Ampicillin Sodium Sterile	20	85
7.	Ethromycin Estolate	1563	800
8.	Ethromycin Stearate	485	2900
9.	Doxycycline	84	43
10.	Streptomycin	2720**	5928
11.	Gentamycine	—	0.750
12.	Chloroquine Phosphate	15875	7700*

*There has been a reduction in the demand for Chlorcquine Phosphate in the eastern region because certain types of mosquitoes in that region have developed immunicy to Chlorcquine.

**Released by Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

1	2	3	4
13.	Mathyl Dopa	455	1275
14.	Indomothacin	20	5
15.	Sulphamethoxyzable	—	1300
16.	Trimethoprim	—	200

Subsidy to Coal India Limited

151. SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total subsidy being given to Coal India Limited in the current year; and

(b) is there any proposal to make up the subsidised amount by re-fixing the coal prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No subsidy is given to the Coal India Ltd.

(b) Does not arise.

बड़े औद्योगिक गृहों का नियंत्रण करने हेतु सच्चर समिति की सिफारिशें

152 श्री डी० अमात :
डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय :
श्री सुभाष आहूजा :
श्री अग्रनसिंह ठाकुर :

क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सच्चर समिति की नियुक्ति बड़े औद्योगिक गृहों द्वारा चलाये जा रहे उद्योगों पर नियंत्रण रखने के लिए उपाय सुझाने के लिए की गई थी ;

(ख) क्या सरकार को सच्चर समिति का प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त हो गया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में इस प्रतिवेदन में क्या मुख्य सिफारिशें की गई हैं ; और

(घ) क्या सरकार इन सिफारिशों की जांच कर रही है तथा सरकार ने अब तक क्या निष्कर्ष निकाला है ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री शान्ति भूषण) : (क) से (घ). "सच्चर समिति" कम्पनी तथा एकाधिकार एवं निबंधनकारी व्यापार प्रथा अधिनियमों का पुनर्विलोकन करने के लिये नियुक्त की गई थी। समिति की स्थापनार्थ, सरकार के दिनांक 23 जून, 1977 के संकल्प में वर्णित समिति के व्यौरेवार निर्देश मद जो दिनांक 29 अगस्त, 1978 को सरकार को प्रस्तुत की गई इसकी रिपोर्ट के परिशिष्ट–I में पुन: प्रस्तुत किये गये हैं, की ओर ध्यान आकर्षित किया जाता है। रिपोर्ट की प्रतियां भी लोक सभा पटल पर दिनांक 30 अगस्त, 1978 को प्रस्तुत की गई थीं।

रिपोर्ट में 368 मुद्रित पृष्ठ हैं, एवं समिति की सिफारिशें, कम्पनी अधिनियम तथा एकाधिकार एवं निबन्धनकारी व्यापार प्रथा अधिनियम, के कार्य-कलापों के अनेक स्वरूपों से सम्बन्धित हैं। सम्पूर्ण रिपोर्ट अब सरकार के विचाराधीन है एवं ऐसी सिफारिशों, जो सरकार द्वारा स्वीकार कर ली जायेंगी, को यथासमय संशोधनकारी कानून बना कर प्रभावी बनाया जायेगा

इंडियन फैमिकल्स मर्चेन्टस एण्ड मैन्युफैक्चरर्स एसोसियेशन की सदस्याएं

153. श्री डी० अमात :
श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय :
श्री सुभाष आहूजा :
श्री अग्रनसिंह ठाकुर :

क्या पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इंडियन कैमिकल्स मर्चेन्टस एण्ड मैन्युफैक्चर्स एसोसियेशन ने अपने उद्योगों की समस्याओं की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा इस दिशा में की गई कार्यवाही का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार एसोसियेशन की दिक्कतों को दूर करने के लिए गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र की सहायता लेने का है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा इस दिशा में क्या प्रयास किए गए हैं ।

पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) संघ (ऐसोसिएशन) द्वारा कैलिसयम अमोनियम नाइट्रेट (कैन) तथा अमोनियम नाइट्रेट मेल्ट (ऐ० एन० एम०) की अनुपलब्धता सम्बन्धी प्राप्त शिकायतों की जांच की गई है और हिन्दुस्तान स्टील लि० (एच० सी० एल०) को के० एल० ए० एन० एम० के उपभोक्ता उद्योग को इन दोनों पदार्थों को उपलब्ध कराने के लिए अनुदेश दिया गया है बशर्ते कि आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम के अधीन इससे उनकी बचनबद्धता पर कोई प्रभाव न हो । हिन्दुस्तान स्टील लि० (एच० सी० एल०) को भी इन उत्पादों की बात-चीत द्वारा उचित मूल्य निर्धारण करने के लिए कहा गया है । संघ ने विभिन्न रसायनों के आयात तथा कुछ अन्य रसायनों के निर्यात को बन्द करने के सुझाव भी दिये थे । प्रत्येक मामले में उचित कार्यवाही की गई है ।

(ग) जी, नहीं ।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Purchase of Submarines from Foreign Countries

154. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are intending to purchase submarines from other countries;

(b) if so, the number?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b). Government have under consideration certain offers made by foreign shipyards for the supply and construction of submarines under licence in India. It will not be in the public interest to disclose further details at this stage.

Proposal to set up a T.V. Station in Rayalaseema

155. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a T. V. Station in Rayalaseema; and

(b) if so, when it will be started?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Steel in South India

156. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any shortage of steel in South India;

(b) the supply now made to that region;

(c) whether the Government is considering to increase the quota; and

(d) if so, by how much?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) In the recent past, shortages have developed in respect of some categories of steel and the impact of this is being felt in various parts of the country, including South India.

(b) Supply of steel made to the four Southern States and Pondicherry from

the main producers during April—December, 1978 is approximately 6,47,000 tonnes. This is in addition to the availability from the mini steel plants and imports.

(c) and (d). As there is no statutory control on distribution of iron and steel at present, the question of increasing the 'quota' does not arise. However, steps have been taken to import adequate quantity of those categories which are in short supply to meet the gap between demand and availability.

Rationing for Diesel Oil in Punjab and Haryana

157. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government introduced ration for diesel oil in the States of Haryana and Punjab; and

(b) if so, from when?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) The State Governments of Haryana and Punjab have introduced a system of allowing restricted supplies of high speed diesel oil.

(b) *Haryana*: From 29th November, 1978 for trucks and tractors; and from 7th December, 1978 for pumping sets.

Punjab: From the middle of November, 1978, informal rationing was introduced. From 22nd December, 1978, formal rationing came into effect.

Utilization of Talents of Senior Officers after Retirement

158. SHRI BASANT SINGH KHALSA: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is under the consideration of the Government to utilise the talents of senior officers of the armed forces on their retirement; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the scheme?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b). Government are considering ways and means whereby it may be possible to utilise the talents and experience of some of the retired Commanders of the Defence Forces.

कोयले की कमी का कारखानों, विद्युत उत्पादन संयंत्रों और रेलगाड़ियों पर बुरा प्रभाव

159. श्री यादवेन्द्र दत्त :
श्री भारत सिंह चौहान :
श्री श्याम लाल धुर्वे :
श्री वीरेन्द्र प्रसाद :

क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पिछले दिनों कोयले की सप्लाई में कमी के कारण बहुत से कारखानों, विद्युत् उत्पादन संयंत्रों तथा गाड़ियों के चलने पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ा है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो समय पर कोयले की सप्लाई सुनिश्चित करने के लिए क्या अविलम्ब उपाय किये गये हैं ?

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अलेश्वर सिंह) : (क) प्राथमिकता के अनुसार बाद की बारी वाले उपभोक्ताओं, बिजली-घरों और रेलवे से कोयले की अपर्याप्त सप्लाई के बारे में कुछ शिकायतें मिली हैं।

(ख) वर्तमान उत्पादन तथा खान मुहाना स्टाक जो लगभग 12.0 मिलियन टन है, उपभोक्ताओं की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए पर्याप्त है। रेलवे वैगनों की सप्लाई में सुधार के लिए रेलवे के साथ निरंतर सम्पर्क रखा जा रहा है। कोयला कम्पनियां उपभोक्ताओं को (अनुरोध पर) सड़क द्वारा कोयला ले जाने की अनुमति दे रही है ताकि रेल द्वारा कोयला भेजने की कमी को पूरा किया जा सके।

राजस्थान को बम्बई हाई की गैस की सप्लाई करने का अनुरोध

160. श्री बादवेन्द्र दत्त :
श्री भारत सिंह चौहान :
श्री श्याम लाल धुर्वे :

क्या पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राजस्थान के मुख्य मंत्री ने राजस्थान में उपयोग हेतु बम्बई हाई की कुछ गैस की सप्लाई करने का अनुरोध किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार को अन्य राज्य सरकारों से भी ऐसे अनुरोध प्राप्त हुए हैं;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उनके नाम क्या है और

(ङ) क्या राजस्थान सरकार ने इस गैस के उपयोग के लिए कोई योजना तैयार की है ?

पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्रीमती हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) अपतटीय गैस भण्डार राष्ट्रीय स्रोत है और उसका उपयोग सम्पूर्ण राष्ट्र की विचारधारा पर तथा देश के आर्थिक हित में उसकी अनुकूलतम् उपयोगिता के विचार पर निर्भर करेगा ।

(ग) जी हां ।

(घ) महाराष्ट्र गुजरात और मध्य प्रदेश ।

(ङ) राजस्थान के मुख्य मंत्री ने राजस्थान में बम्बई हाई गैस । ताप्ती गैस पर आधारित केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र के दो उर्वरक संयंत्रों की योजना बनाने के लिए अनुरोध किया है ।

Rise in price of Alcohol

161. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS: be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request for increase in the alcohol price has been received by him: and

(b) whether Government have agreed to raise the price of alcohol, if so, to what extent and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir. A representation has been made by the All India Distillers' Association for increase in the selling price of alcohol.

(b) The Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices have been requested to assess fair selling prices thereof.

Manufacture of Ethyl Amine Indigenously

162. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS: be pleased to state:

(a) whether any National laboratory like N.C.L. or R.R.L. has established a process of producing Ethyl Amine;

(b) if so, whether the said process is being commercialised;

(c) if answer to part (a) of the question is in the negative, whether the Government are taking any steps to establish the process indigenously;

(d) what is the total quantity of Ethyl Amine produced during the last calendar year 1978 by the plant established at I.D.P.L. Hyderabad; and

(e) if the plant mentioned at part 'd' above is not producing Ethyl Amine what are the reasons therefor and what steps have Government taken or process to take to expedite its production?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) No, Sir. Neither the National Chemical Laboratory, Pune nor the Regional Research Laboratory, Hyderabad are reported to have done any work on production of Ethyl Amine.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) IDPL, Hyderabad has set up facility for production of Ethyl Amines where Diethylamine is the major product. Monoethyl and Triethylamines are produced as by-products.

(d) The production of Diethylamine and Triethylamine during the year 1978 was 104.8 tonnes and 2.2 tonnes respectively.

(e) Does not arise.

Navel Academy

163. SHRI O. V. ALEGESAN: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) is there any proposal to establish a Naval Academy;

(b) what are the States that have suggested suitable sites for the purpose; and

(c) what are the site/sites recommended by the teams of Experts which inspected the various sites suggested?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) There is already, a Naval Academy which is housed, on a temporary basis, in some old barracks/hutments in Cochin. A proposal to establish the Academy on a permanent basis at a suitable site with expanded training capacity is under consideration.

(b) Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa.

(c) The team of Experts have recommended Madras and Porbander in order of preference as the suitable sites for the new Naval Academy. The recommendations are under consideration.

Search for Oil in Kerala

164. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to search for oil this time at the north of Calicut in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how much crude Government are going to import this year; and

(d) how much crude Government expect to produce this year and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) No work for oil exploration in the onshore area of Calicut is currently in progress, nor is there any plan at present for such work in the near future. However, in the offshore, Geophysical survey in the shelf area between Calicut and Mangalore is planned to be conducted during the period February-May, 1979.

(b) As at (a) above.

(c) Crude oil imports during 1978-79 are expected to be approximately 15 million tonnes.

(d) About 11.76 million tonnes of crude oil is likely to be produced in the country during 1978-79 as per details given below:—

	Likely Crude oil Production during 1978-79 (million tonnes)
ONGC	
(i) Onshore . . .	5.61
(ii) Offshore . . .	3.30
Total . . .	8.91
(iii) Oil India Ltd. .	2.80
(iv) Assam Oil Co. .	0.05
G. Total . . .	11.76

Crisis in fertiliser units for want of Sulphur

165. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

SHRIMATI AHILYA P. RANGNEKAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the fertilizer units are heading for a serious crisis and even a shut-down for want of sulphur;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government are also aware that for the past 4 months also, over 40,000 tonnes of sulphur were lying in steam-off Bombay Docks because of storing difficulties and MMTC was unwilling to lighten the cargo and give it to the users only because it was not sure who would bear the lighterage charges; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) and (b). As a result of the delay in getting the contracted quantity of sulphur from certain countries, there has been difficulty in meeting the sulphur requirements of fertilizer units fully. The situation has, however, been kept under constant review and steps have already been taken by MMTC to augment the imports by entering into fresh contracts.

(c) and (d). Subsequent to the dock labour strike, the waiting period of ships at the Bombay port got prolonged and there was delay in off-loading sulphur. MMTC who are the canalising agency for importing sulphur, agreed on the request of some of the consumers to discharge the sulphur on high-seas to barges levying the extra charge to the consumers. The MMTC also made an announcement through a press note issued on 31-1-1979 requesting the consumers to avail of this facility.

Collaboration and assistance of British mining Experts

166. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has sought the collaboration and assistance of British mining experts in developing some selected mines in the country as model high out-put mines; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and(b). The U.K. Coal Mission which visited India in April-May, 1978 indicated that the major part of the increase in production from underground sources would have to come from mechanised longwall working. Accordingly, the assistance of a team of experts from the National Coal Board U.K. was sought *inter alia* in the selection of a few mines for mechanisation of coal extraction. The team visited India in January-February, 1979. They are yet to submit their report.

Houses for the Jawans

167. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of houses Government propose to build for the Jawans;

(b) how many Jawans are in need of houses in the army; and

(c) how many Jawans are recruited every year in the Indian Army?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b) About 30,000 officers and 2,10,000 JCO/OR are entitled to be provided with accommodation. The deficiencies as at the end of September 1978 were about 16,000 units for Officers and 87,000 units for JCOs and ORs. The deficiencies are proposed to be made good over a period of 13 years from 1978-79.

(c) Approximately 50,000 Jawans are recruited in place of persons who retire or for making up deficiencies.

Neyveli Lignite Corporation

168. SHRI P. KANNAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the precise progress of the latest project of Neyveli Lignite Corporation with reference to the schedules laid down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): Sanction was accorded by Government of India in February, 1978 to a project relating to the opening of a second mine with a capacity of 4.7 m.t. of lignite per annum and establishment of a second thermal power station with a capacity of 630 MW (with 3 units of 210 MW each). In so far as the progress for the second mine is concerned, global tenders received for the specialised mining equipment have been opened and are being examined. The detail project report is nearing completion. Production from the second mine is scheduled to commence from July, 1982 and the targetted level of production is planned to be attained by 1983-84.

In so far as the progress for the second thermal power station is concerned, global tenders for steam generating plant and turbo generators have already been floated, tenders against which will be received in April, 1979

The generation of power from the second thermal power station is scheduled to commence in 3 stages i.e. 1st phase of 210 MW by 1-10-81, IInd phase of 210 MW by 1-10-81, and IInd phase of 210 MW by 1-4-1983.

losses due to inadequate supply of Coal

169. SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any estimates have been made of the losses to our economy by inadequate supplies of coal for industrial and consumer needs; and

(b) if so, the quantum and value of such losses indicating the firm steps taken to streamline coal production and supplies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) the coal companies have been able to meet, by and large, the demand for coal in the country, although there may be marginal shortages in certain areas. No assessment has been made of the losses to the economy due to such marginal shortages.

(b) With the recovery of almost all the drowned mines in the Bengal-Bihar Coalfields with improved power supply, the production has already picked up. Import of explosives is being done to overcome shortage of explosives. The coal companies have taken steps to identify and implement short gestation projects from which additional coal production can be quickly made available. The present level of pithead stocks which is approximately 12.0 million tonnes is adequate to meet the requirements of he consumers. Close coordination is being maintained with the railways for improvement in wagon supplies. Movement of coal by road is also allowed wherever necessary.

Outlay for steel sector in next Financial Year

170. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total capital outlay for the steel sector in the next financial year; and

(b) what steps are being taken for augmenting captive power generation capacity of Durgapur and Bokaro steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND (SHRI KARIA MUNDA (a) The information relating to the Plan Outlay of the Department of Steel for the year 1979-80 will be available in the Budget Documents to be presented before the Lok Sabha on 28th February, 1979.

(b) Government have sanctioned schemes for the augmentation of captive generating capacity in Durgapur Steel Plant by 2 x 60 MW and in Bokaro Steel Plant by 3 x 60 MW.

Target of importing steel during 1979-80

171. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the target of importing various categories of steel during 19-9-80, and

(b) the target of production of ingot and saleable steel during 1979-80 separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). The production plan and import programme for 1979-80 are expected to be finalised shortly.

Implementation of Haldia Fertilizer Project

172. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have taken necessary measures to expedite the implementation of the Haldia Fertilizer Project;

(b) when the project is expected to go into stream; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir. Periodical reviews of the project implemenation schedule together with meetings with various suppliers of equipment and the agencies connected with providing infrastructural facilities have been undertaken from time to time to speed up the implementation.

(b) The 'feed-in' for the project is expected to take place sometime in July, 1979 and commercial production is expected to commence from April, 1980.

(c) The project comprises, besides the manufacture of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers, the manufacture of soda ash and methanol also. In fact, it consists of as many as nine different plants to produce these end products. The ammonia and urea plants are expected to be commissioned by the end of 1979 followed by the other plants, with all plants going into commercial production by April, 1980.

Production of ingot and saleable steel and total import of steel

173. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of ingot and saleable steel last year; and

(b) the total import of steel during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) The total production of ingot steel from the integrated steel plants in 1977-78 was 8.424 million tonnes. and of saleable steel 6.894 million tonnes.

(b) The total import of steel in 1977-78 amounted to 356.574 tonnes.

1979 में अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह में भाग लेने वाले देश

174. **श्री दयाराम शाक्य** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जनवरी, 1979 के प्रथम सप्ताह में राजधानी में हुए अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह में भाग लेने वाले देशों के नाम क्या हैं और टिकटों की बिक्री के परिणामस्वरूप देश को कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा की आय हुई ;

(ख) उपरोक्त समारोह में किन किन विषयों पर विचार हुआ और किन किन देशों ने भारतीय फिल्मों के आयात के प्रति रुचि दिखाई ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) : (क) कुल 39 देशों (भारत सहित) ने 3 से 17 जनवरी, 1979 तक नई दिल्ली में हुए अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह में भाग लिया था । टिकटों की बिक्री के रूप में विदेशी मुद्रा की आय होने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता, क्योंकि टिकटों को स्थानीय रूप से रुपयों में बेचा गया था ।

(ख) समारोह के दौरान विकासशील देशों में सिनेमा विषय पर एक संगोष्ठी का आयोजन किया गया था । जिन देशों ने भारतीय फिल्मों के आयात में रुचि दिखाई थी उन में से कुछ के नाम ये हैं ईराक, मंगोलिया, चैकोस्लोवाकिया, पोलैंड, मारीशस, रुमानिया, पूर्तगाल, तनजानिया, पेरू, अमरीका, कनाडा, हंगरी, बेल्जियम और अल्जीरिया ।

उत्तर प्रदेश में डीजल का वितरण

175. **श्री दयाराम शाक्य** : क्या पट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में किसानों को खेती के लिए डीजल तेल नहीं मिलता है क्योंकि डीजल टैंकर पैट्रोल पम्पों और ऐजेंसियों के पास रात के समय पहुचते हैं और दूर रहने वाले किसान सारी रात पंक्ति में नहीं ठहर सकते और डीजल का वितरण रात को ही कर दिया जाता है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि मेरठ जिले में मवाना तहसील में खंड विकास अधिकारियों ने किसानों को डीजल परमिट जारी किये हैं परन्तु फिर भी ऐजेंसियों और पैट्रोल पम्पों द्वारा डीजल का वितरण रात के समय किये जाने के कारण उन को डीजल तेल नहीं मिल पाता; और

(ग) उपरोक्त समस्याओं का समाधान करने के लिये केन्द्र सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) अधिकांश रूप से मिजोरम को डीजल दिन के समय नहीं दिया जाता है । परन्तु रेल टैंक वैगनों की सीमित उपलब्धता के कारण यह आवश्यक हो गया है कि देश के ऊपरी भागों में डिपों को टैंक लारियों द्वारा सप्लाई भेजी जाये और कुछ मामलों में यह लारियां अपने निर्धारित स्थानों पर देर से पहुंची थी ऐसे स्टाक का वितरण सामान्य रूप से दूसरे दिन ही किया जाता है । यदि किसान इस बात के लिए जोर नहीं देते कि डीजल का वितरण उसी समय ही किया जाये कुछ मामलों में जहां आवश्यकतायें अधिक हैं राज्य सरकारों के नागरिक पूर्ति अधिकारियों ने कई स्थानों पर किसानों को डीजल विक्रय के लिए कुछ कोटा प्रतिबन्ध लगाये हैं । कुछ अवसरों पर जिला अधिकारियों ने फुटकर बिक्री केन्द्रों पर अपने कर्मचारी लगाये हैं ताकि डीजल का समान वितरण सुनिश्चित हो ।

(ख) मवाना को इण्डियन आयल कारपोरेशन के मेरठ डिपों से पूर्ति की जाती है जो कि लगभग 30 कि. मी. की दूरी पर है और इस रूट पर डीजल की सप्लाई सामान्यता दिन के समय ही की जाती है ।

(ग) नवम्बर–दिसम्बर, 1978 के दौरान परिवहन कठिनाइयों के फलस्वरूप उत्तर प्रदेश सहित समस्त उत्तर पश्चिम क्षेत्र में उत्पादों की कमी महसूस की गई थी। उत्तर प्रदेश के डिपों को एच०एस०डी० की सप्लाई बढ़ाने के लिए उपाये किये गये हैं और इस उत्पाद की उपलब्धता से सम्बन्धित स्थिति में काफी सुधार हुआ है।

पुराणपुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) और राम शहर (हिमाचल प्रदेश) में गैस और तेल की खोज

176. **श्री दयाराम शाक्य** : क्या पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पुराणपुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) और राम शहर (हिमाचल प्रदेश) में कितनी मात्रा में तेल और गैस मिलने की संभावनाएं हैं और वहां की गई खोज पर सरकार ने कितनी धनराशि खर्च की; और

(ख) सरकार तेल छिद्रण कार्य कब आरंभ करेगी ?

पैट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा) : (क) तेल एवं प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग द्वारा राम शहर, हिमाचल प्रदेश में एक कुआं खोदा गया था परन्तु इसमें कोई तेल अथवा गैस नहीं पायी गयी थी। पूरन-पुर, उत्तर प्रदेश में एक कुएं को खोदने का कार्य चल रहा है और खुदाई का कार्य पूरा होने के बाद तथा कुएं के परीक्षण के बाद ही तेल और गैस के प्राप्त होने की सम्भावना के सम्बन्ध में पता चलेगा। पूरनपुर और राम शहर परियोजना में अन्वेषण पर अभी तक किया गया खर्च इस प्रकार है:—

पूरनपुर परियोजना	324.95 लाख रुपये
राम शहर परियोजना	619.50 लाख रुपये

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

सातवें तथा छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोहों पर किया गया खर्च

177. **श्री हरगोविन्द वर्मा** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सातवें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह पर, मदवार, कितनी धनराशि खर्च की गई;

(ख) छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह में उन्हीं मदों पर कितनी धनराशि खर्च की गई;

(ग) क्या छठे समारोह की तुलना में सातवें समारोह पर अधिक धनराशि खर्च की गई; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) : (क) और (ख). सूचना संलग्न विवरण में दी गई है।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

विवरण

सातवें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह, 1979 और भारत के छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह, 1977 पर हुआ मद-वार व्यय दर्शाया गया है

क्रम संख्या	मद	भारत के सातवें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह पर हुआ अनुमानित व्यय	भारत के छठे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह पर हुआ व्यय
		(लाख रुपयों में)	
1	थियेटर व्यय	4.84	6.12
2	स्थानीय आतिथ्य	5.28	4.48
3	यात्रा, वाहन और भाड़ा और फिल्मों का बीमा	9.80	19.64
4	उपहार स्वरूप टिकट	1.22	1.12
5	कर्मचारियों को पारिश्रमिक, मानदेय और भत्ता	3.00	3.14
6	मुद्रण और प्रचार तथा पत्र सूचना कार्यालय के व्यय	5.00	6.09
7	पुरस्कार और उपहार	0.70	0.66
8	स्मारिका व्यय	0.85	0.96
9	फिल्म सेमीनार	0.30	0.20
10	पंजीकरण शुल्क	0.65	0.64
11	सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम आदि	0.60	0.51

1	2	3	4
12	टेलीफोन व्यय	0.50	0.35
13	दुभाषियों और मार्गदर्शकों का शुल्क	0.25	0.21
14	विविध व्यय और अन्य मदें	0.75	0.61
15	स्टेशनरी	0.25	0.15
16	फर्नीचर/उपकरणों का किराया	0.35	0.28
17	डाक और तार	2.00	1.18
18	भारतीय पैनोरमा	0.75	—
19	बाजार विभाग पर 50 प्रतिशत	1.75	—
	योग	38.84 अर्थात् 39.00	46.34

सातवें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह में नियुक्त किये गये व्यक्ति

178. **श्री हरगोविन्द वर्मा :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सातवें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह में कितने व्यक्ति नियुक्त किए गए थे;

(ख) उनकी नियुक्ति किस आधार पर की गई थी; और

(ग) क्या इन व्यक्तियों की भर्ती रोजगार कार्यालयों के माध्यम से की गई थी और यदि नहीं, तो क्यों ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी): (क) 42 दैनिक मजूरी वाले कर्मचारी–26 मैसेंजर/मजदूर, 10 टाइपिस्ट–व–लिपिक, 5 स्टेनोग्राफर और एक लेखकार–और 72 वालेंटियर मार्गदर्शक और अशर ।

(ख) व्यक्तियों के चयन की कसौटी इस प्रकार थी:—

श्रेणी	चयन की कसौटी
1. मजदूर	शारीरिक कार्य करने के योग्य ।
2. मैसेंजर	बुद्धि दर्शनीयता, पढ़ने और लिखने की क्षमता और विषम समय वाली ड्यूटी करने की इच्छुकता ।
3. टाइपिस्ट और स्टेनोग्राफर	हुनर की परीक्षा और लम्बे और और विषम समय वाली ड्यूटी करने के लिए व्यक्तियों की उपलब्धता ।
4. लेखाकार	व्यावसायिक योग्यता और लेखा कार्य करने में विशेषज्ञता ।
5. वालंटियर मार्गदर्शक और अशर	सिनेमा में रुचि अधिमानत: किसी विदेशी भाषा की जानकारी और दर्शनीयता, आदि ।

(ग) तीन मजदूरों को छोड़ कर शेष सभी मजदूर सभी मैसेंजर और लेखाकार रोजगार कार्यालय द्वारा नामित व्यक्तियों में से रखे गए थे । तीन मजदूरों को फिल्मों की प्रिंटों की निकासी का अचानक हो गए अधिक काम को करने के लिए आपातकालीन आधार पर रखा गया था । जहां तक टाइपिस्टों और स्टेनोग्राफरों का सम्बन्ध है रोजगार कार्यालय ने पर्याप्त संख्या में व्यक्ति नहीं भेजे थे, अत: आवेदन-पत्र समाचारपत्रों में विज्ञापन के माध्यम से आमंत्रित किये गए थे । वालंटीयर मार्गदर्शक और अशरों का चयन विदेशी भाषा विभाग, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय, विदेशी भाषा संस्थान, जवाहर लाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय, नेशनल स्कूल आफ ड्रामा और विभिन्न कालेजों की फिल्म सोसाइटियों जैसे संस्थानों की सिफारिशों के आधार पर किया गया था ।

सातवें फिल्म समारोह के दौरान नियुक्त किए गए व्यक्ति

179. **श्री हरगोविन्द वर्मा :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सातवें फिल्म समारोह के दौरान नियुक्त किए गए व्यक्तियों का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ख) उनमें से प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को उस अवधि के लिए कितनी धनराशि दी गई ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) : (क) और (ख). सूचना विवरण में दी गई है, जो सभा पटल पर रखी गयी है । [ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया, देखिये संख्या LT—3270/79]

सातवें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के "प्रेस शो' हेतु प्लाजा सिनेमा का चयन

180. **श्री हरगोविन्द वर्मा :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सातवें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय समारोह के प्रेस शो के स्थान के रूप में विज्ञान भवन की अपेक्षा प्लाजा सिनेमा का चयन किया गया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) इस प्रयोजन के लिए प्लाजा सिनेमा को कितनी राशि अदा की गई ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) : (क) और (ख) जी, नहीं । प्रेस शो के लिए विज्ञान भवन के अलावा प्लाजा सिनेमा को भी चुना गया था । क्योंकि विज्ञान भवन समारोह का सरकारी स्थान था जहां सुबह एक प्रेस शो के अलावा, सरकारी वर्ग की फिल्मों के दोपहर 3.30 बजे से आगे तीन नियमित शो दिखाने होते थे, अत: वहां सभी प्रेस शो दिखाने सम्भव नहीं था । अत: प्रेस शो के लिए अतिरिक्त सिनेमाघर किराये पर लेना आवश्यक था । इस प्रयोजन के लिए प्लाजा को चुना गया था क्योंकि यह बीच में था और विज्ञान भवन के निकट था और मान्यताप्राप्त संवाददाता और समारोह के प्रतिनिधि वहां आसानी से पहुंच सकते थे ।

(ग) 80,240.00 रुपए ।

Proposal for modernisation of TISCO

181. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received from the Tata Steel Company a proposal for modernisation involving a capital cost of Rs. 18 crores;

(b) if so, important details of the proposal received by the Government and for how long it is pending;

(c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the proposal is kept pending because of the proposal for taking over of Tata Steel Company; and

(e) whether Government have taken a final decision regarding taking over of Tata's steel company?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) to (c). A scheme essentially for the modernisation of TISCO at a capital cost of Rs. 118 crores was received in November, 1978. The proposed scheme envisages:—

(i) Modernisation of 'F' Blast Furnace;

(ii) Installation of two oxygen steel making vessels (in place of two existing open Hearth Furnaces), one vaccum are de-gassing unit and one continuous casting machine for casting billets;

(iii) Modification of primary Mills by provision of one pre-warming pit and one soaking pit;

(iv) Installation of Bar Forging Facilities.

Formal approval of Government for the various aspects of the scheme, to the extent required, has not been sought so far. This will be considered on receipt of application in this regard;

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir. The matter is still under consideration of Government.

Proposal to extend service period of Jawans

182. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER and Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for extension of service period of Jawans;

(b) if so, furnish details of the proposal under consideration; and

(c) the decision taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) to (c). The period of colour service was enhanced some time back. There is no immediate proposal, as such, at this time for a further enhancement but the matter is kept under periodical review.

Effect of coal shortage on industries in Delhi

183. SHRI S. R. REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of industries in and around Delhi have been badly hit by the acute shortage of coal;

(b) whether similar reports have been received by Government from other States and if so, the names of such States; and

(c) if so, what practical steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) There were some distress calls in the recent past from industries in and around Delhi to rush coal supplies to avoid loss of production.

(b) Reports of shortages of coal have been received from Punjab, U. P., Rajasthan and Gujarat.

(c) The present level of pithead stocks which amounts to approximately 12.0 million tonnes is adequate to meet the demands of consumers. Close coordination is being maintained with the Railways for improvement in wagon supplies. Road movement is also allowed wherever necessary.

Approval of Indian Oil Corproation's plans to provide cooking gas to Consumers

184. SHRI S. R. REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently approved Indian Oil Corporation's plans which will provide cooking gas to 175 lakh consumers during the next four years;

(b) if so, the details regarding the plan and quota; State-wise; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up more refineries in the country after the completion of the Mathura Refineries?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTLIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Government have recently approved the proposal of the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. which envisages the enrolment of 17.5 lakh new domestic customers for Liquified Petroleum Gas (cooking gas) besides other commercial and industrial consumers.

(b) The proposals include expansion of the existing bottling capacity for LPG at Shakurbasti (Delhi) and Kanpur, setting up of new bottling Plants in addition to the bottling plants at Mathura Refinery and procurement of about 26.3 lakhs cylinders and 17.91 lakhs pressure regulators. The details of new enrolment plans would be decided on a year to year basis.

(c) A study Group was appointed to examine the additional refining/ secondary processing capacity to be set up/initiated during the sixth plan (1978—83) and for two subsequent years. The report of the said Study Group has been received and is under appraisal of the Government in consultation with working group on Petroleum set up by the Planning Commission.

Decision on Sachar Committee recommendations

185. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decision on the Sachar Committee recommendation to ban inter-corporate investments;

(b) if so, whether the Government has examined its implications on diversification of enterprises;

(c) whether Government has also examined its implication in obtaining capital for new enterprises in a capital shy market; and

(d) if so, the result of these exercises?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) No, Sir. The recommendation is under the active consideration of Government.

(b) to (d). The implications mentioned by the Hon'ble member will be duly considered before a decision is taken in the mater.

Contract entered into by Bombay Television Centre for certain programmes

186. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bombay Television Centre has entered into a contract with two persons for its programmes "Parikrama" and "Apka Swasthya".

(b) if so, does this contract involve any position of monopoly for these two persons;

(c) if so, reasons for giving monopoly of the programme to the persons concerned; and

(d) whether other applicants were also considered and if so, why were they rejected?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir. Bombay Kendra offers a contract to the presenters of 'Parikrama' and 'Apka Swasthya' on a fortnightly basis.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) 'Parikrama' and 'Apka Swasthya' have been respectively handled by Shri Kamleshwar and Dr. Padam Singhvi from their inception and they have made these programmes popular. No other persons were considered for these two particular programmes. However, constant efforts are being made to locate new talent for these and other popular programmes.

Utilisation of additional generating capacity

187. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current year's target of additional generating capacity is being attained;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether monitoring of project progress is taking place to prevent slippage in targets; and

(d) whether power generating units have complained of inadequate coal supply as the main reason for generating shortfalls?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Power Programme ofr thbe year 1978-79 had provisionally envisaged an addition of 3857 MW of new generating capacity. Uptil the the end of January 1979, new capacity of 1717 MW has been added. It is expected that the total capacity

added during the current year would be about 3000 MW.

(b) There are several critical factors affecting the commissioning of new capacity within the targetted time. Some of these factors are—delay in supply of material and equipment, labour unrest, difficulty in importing and natural calamities.

(c) Yes, Sir. The progress of the projects under construction is being regularly monitored by the Central Electricity Authority and the Department of Power as well as the respective State Electricity Boards.

(d) There have been some problems of coal supply to thermal power stations, mainly owing to transport bottlenecks and these have affected generation in a few power station to some extent. The question of coal supply is being closely monitored.

Sharing of power generated by Thein Dam between Punjab and Haryana

188. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:

SHRI SHANKER SINHJI VAGHELA:

SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Government of Haryana have recently approached the Central Government to resolve the dispute relating to sharing of power to be generated by Thein Dam Project between Punjab and Haryana States; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Central Government to resolve the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to determining the claims of states for a share in Thein Dam Power, it has been recided to obtain the opinion of the Attorney General of India.

Hike in Power Tariff in Gujarat

189. SHRI CHHITU BHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been hike in power tariff in the State of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, whether Central Government had advised the State Government to announce some concessions in tariff at least in the backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Gujarat State Electricity Board has revised the tariff for power supply to its consumers with effect from 1-11-1978. The revision has been effected to meet the increasing operation and maintenance expenses, interest and depreciation charges.

(b) The Central Government has not given any such instructions to the State Government.

The increase in tariff in the case of small industries is only negligible. Some concession is allowed in the tariff for power supply to industries located in the backward areas and growth centres.

News item Captioned Ahmedabad Electricity company faced with coal crisis

190. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention isdraw n to the "Times of India" dated 28-1-79 that Ahmedabad Electricty

Company Continues to reel under a coal crisis at its thermal power generation plants

(b) whether it is also a fact that one of the main reasons for the coal shortage was the decision of standing linkage committee of the Union Government to cut down the company's coal quota in spite of the fact that the company's thermal plants had a high record of power generation performance.

(c) whether it is also a fact that a couple of months ago, the state's thermal power stations were hit by chronic coal scarcity because of a shortage of railway wagons to transport the coal from upcountry; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Thermal Power Stations at Gandhinagar and Ukai had also faced coal shortage during the period June, 78 to August, 78 and non-availability of adequate number of wagons was also a constraint.

(d) The Central Government is closely monitoring the supply and movement of coal to various thermal power stations and effective steps are taken for accelerating the supply of coal to the needy thermal power stations.

Inspection of Affairs of Birla Jute Limited

191. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the affairs of Birla Jute Ltd. have been inspected after 1975;

(b) if so, what are the findings of the inspection; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) It is presumed that the question relates to M/s. Birla Jute Mfg. Company Limited, since there is no Company by name Birla Jute Ltd. The affairs of this company have not been inspected under section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956 after 1975.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) An order for investigation under section 235(c) of the Act had been made and was challanged by the company in the Calcutta High Court and the matter was pending till August, 1978.

Cost of Power Generation

192. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRIMATI AHILYA P. RANGNEKAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) what were the targets fixed and actual power generated by the hydel, thermal and nuclear power plants during the past five calendar years; and

(b) what was the cost of power generation per unit by each of these sectors during this period?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House. (Placed in library. See No. LT—3271/793 Statement I gives the target and actual generation of energy for the years 1973-74 to 1977-78 Statement II gives the average cost of generation of power from hydro and thermal power station in the various States for the years 1973-74 to 1976-77. The figures of cost of generation for the year 1977-78 are not yet available as the State Electricity Boards have not yet supplied the requisite information which is based on finalisation of there annual accounts. In this connection, it may also be mentioned that the average cost of generation from thermal power stations would vary considerably from power station to power station depending upon the distances of the power station from the coal mines. Similarly, in the case of hydro stations, the average cost would depend on the water availability which depend on the water avability which in turn depends upon the monsoons and/or irrigation requirements.

Data regarding average cost of generation from nuclear power stations is being collected and information will be laid on the Table of the House shortly.

चलती फिरती न्यायालय बैंचें बनाने का सुझाव

193. **डा. रामजी सिंह** : क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) चलती फिरती न्यायालय बैंचें बनाने के बारे में उच्चतम न्यायालय के एक वरिष्ठ न्यायाधीश के सुझाव पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;

(ख) क्या हरिजनों पर अत्याचारों, साम्प्रदायिक दंगों आदि सम्बन्धी मामलों के निपटारे हेतु शीघ्र ही न्याय उपलब्ध कराने की दृष्टि से कोई विशेष प्रबन्ध करने का प्रस्ताव है; और

(ग) क्या ऐसे न्यायालयों की स्थापना के लिये चालू सत्र में कोई विधेयक पुरःस्थापित करने का विचार है ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री शान्ति भूषण): (क) विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय में ऐसा कोई सुझाव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ख) और (ग). दण्ड प्रक्रिया संहिता (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 1978 द्वारा यथा संशोधित दण्ड प्रक्रिया संहिता, 1973 की धारा 11 के अधीन राज्य सरकारें सम्बद्ध उच्च न्यायालय से परामर्श करके प्रथम श्रेणी या वित्तीय श्रेणी न्यायिक मजिस्ट्रेट के न्यायालय किसी भी विशेष वर्ग के मामलों का विचारण करने के लिए स्थापित कर सकती है। इस उपबन्ध के अधीन अब हरिजनों पर अत्याचारों आदि के मामलों के विचारण के लिए न्यायिक मजिस्ट्रेटों के विशेष न्यायालय स्थापित करना सम्भव है।

Criteria for Issuing Republic Day Passes

194. SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the criteria of issuing passes for the Republic day parade and beating retreat ceremonies;

(b) what is the procedure adopted to check entries to these enclosures to ensure that only right persons are admitted;

(c) what is the precedence for M.Ps. in alloting seats to the reserved enclosures;

(d) whether it has come to the notice of Government that enclosures for M.Ps. are occupied by all sorts of people and M.Ps. themselves are not able to get seats;

(e) whether it is a fact that seats for the two ceremonies are kept reserved for Military Officers; and

(f) the reasons for not reserving seats for M.Ps. and whether in future it would be ensured that seats are kept reserved for M.Ps. when passes are issued to them?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) Invitation cards are issued among others to States' guests; Members of Government and other dignitaries featuring in the Table of Precedence including Members of Parliament and of State Legislatures. Also to Members of Municipal Corporation of Delhi, the Delhi Metropolitan Council and the N.D.M.C. freedom fighters; Members of the Press Corps; persons connected with the arrangements for the celebrations and families of participants, entitled categories of Government servants and various other prescribed categories of persons.

(b) Ushers are deployed in all enclosures to help the invitees in finding their seats and to prevent the entry of unauthorised persons.

(c) All MPs. are seated in VIP enclosure. A block of 250 seats in the enclosure is specially reserved for MPs. Marked seats are provided to M.Ps. who are leaders of Parties.

(d) and (f). No such complaint seems to have been received, though it is possible that there may have been individual cases of inconvenience which is regretted. In enclosure intended for M.Ps., officials of Department of Parliamentary Affairs and Lok Sabha and Rajjya Sabha Secretariats are specially posted on ushering duty to ensure that members of Parliament are properly guided to their seats and that no unauthorised persons occupy these seats.

However, efforts will be made to further improve and strengthen the existing special arrangemehts for Members of Parliament.

(e) Provision is made for seating of the senior Service and Civilian officials to whom invitations are sent, as to other categories.

आस्ट्रेलिया से कोकिंग कोल का आयात

195. **श्री गंगा भक्त सिंह:** क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार आस्ट्रेलिया से कोकिंग कोल का आयात करने का है जब कि देश की विभिन्न कोयला खानों में कोयले के भारी भंडार पड़े हैं– और उस की ढुलाई नहीं की जा रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कोयला आयात करने के क्या कारण है; तथा कोयले की ढुलाई के लिए उपयुक्त प्रबन्ध न करने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) देश में आयातित कोयला कब तक उपलब्ध हो जायेगा तथा देश में उत्पादित कोयले के मूल्य की तुलना में आयातित कोयले का क्या मूल्य होगा ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कढ़िया मुण्डा) : (क) दस लाख टन कोककर कोयले का आयात करने के लिए आस्ट्रेलिया और कनाडा से पहले ही करार हो चुके है। यह कहना ठीक नहीं है कि देश की भिन्न-भिन्न कोयला खानों में भारी मात्रा में कोककर कोयले का स्टाक पड़ा हुआ है जिसकी ढुलाई नहीं की जा रही है।

(ख) कोककर कोयले का आयात मुख्यत: निम्नलिखित कारणों से किया जा रहा है :—

1. कोककर कोयले के सीमित देशीय निक्षेपों का रक्षण करना, जिससे वे काफी लम्बे समय तक चलते रहें।

3. मात्रा और क्वालिटी दोनों की दृष्टि से कोयले की देशीय सप्लाई को बढ़ाना ताकि इस्पात कारखानों की आवश्यकताओं की सम्पूर्ण पूर्ति की जा सके; तथा

2. उच्च श्रेणी का कम राख वाला कोककर कोयला इस्तेमाल करने ब्लास्ट भट्टी के उत्पादन तथा उत्पादिता में वृद्धि करना और इस प्रकार के इस्तेमाल के तकनीकी-आर्थिक लाभ का अनुमान लगाना।

वर्ष 1978-79 के प्रारम्भ से ही इस्पात कारखानों के पास कोयले का स्टाक बहुत ही कम रहा है। देशीय सप्लाई में वृद्धि करना कई कारणों से सम्भव नहीं हो सका है, जिनमें कोयले का उत्पादन और ढुलाई भी शामिल है, विशेषकर उस समय जब देश के पूर्वी भाग में अभूतपूर्व बाढ़ आई हुई थी। इस्पात कारखानों को कोयले की सप्लाई बढ़ाने के लिए इस्पात कारखानों द्वारा कोयला विभाग तथा रेलवे के साथ सतत् सम्पर्क रखा जा रहा है।

(ग) आयातित कोककर कोयला देश में आना शुरू हो गया है। अच्छी किस्म के आयातित कोककर कोयले का लागत-बीमा-भाड़ा मूल्य 567 रुपये प्रति टन तथा मध्यम दर्जे के कोककर कोयले का 510 रुपये प्रति टन है जब कि देशीय कोककर कोयले की इस्पात कारखानों में पहुंचने की कीमत 200 रुपये प्रति टन है।

Production of Petroleum Products

196. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARAN MURTHY:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are likely to raise the petroleum product by more than 10 percentage;

(b) if so, whether in the month of December the discussion between his Ministry and Finance Ministry took place;

(c) whether a number of tentative alternative proposals were considered by Government;

(d) what is the final decision arrived at; and

(e) whether Government are also considering for selective reduction in the levy of excise duties on petroleum products manufactured in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Government has not taken any decision in the matter.

(b) It is not in the public interest to divulge information in this regard.

(c) The entire question is being examined.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(e) This cannot be divulged at this stage, in public interest.

देश में भूतपूर्व सैनिक

197. श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सुमनाक्षर क्या उपप्रधान मंत्री तथा रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय देश में कुल कितने भूतपूर्व सैनिक हैं ;

(ख) क्या सरकार की उनमें उन व्यक्तियों की, जो समर्थ हैं तथा 50 से 60 वर्ष की आयु के हैं, सेवाओं का उपयोग करने की कोई योजना है, और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

उप-प्रधान मंत्री तथा रक्षा मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : (क) देश में भूतपूर्व सैनिकों की ठीक संख्या बता पाना संभव नहीं है। 1973 में लगभग 22.58 लाख भूतपूर्व सैनिक थे। देश के भूतपूर्व सैनिकों की अनुमानित संख्या 1981 की जनगणना के बाद प्राप्त हो सकेगी।

(ख) और (ग) इस समय ऐसी कोई विशेष योजना नहीं है जिसमें 50 से 60 वर्ष की आयु वाले भूतपूर्व सैनिकों की सेवाओं का उपयोग किया जा सके।

Rank Badges in Army and Police

198. SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rank badges worn by the army and the police are the same;

(b) if so, is he aware that such similarity has created both confusion and resentment; and

(c) will the Government consider of having separate badges for the police?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) No, Sir.

The rank badges worn by the Army and the Police are of different colours and distincts design.

(b) The Government have not received any such report.

(c) There is no such proposal in view of (a) and (b) above.

Recognition of B.G.L. Degree of Kamaraj University

199. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bar Council of India has not recognised the B.G.L. degree of the Kamaraj University (Madurai);

(b) whether Government are aware that thousands of B.G.L. students suffer because of the non-recognition; and

(c) why the Government are not directing the Bar Council of India to get recognition for the benefit of thousands of students?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Rules framed by the Bar Council of India, for the maintenance of professional standards, a degree in Law is recognised for the purposes of enrolment as an Advocate only if it is awarded after a 3 year course of study. The B.G.L. degree being conferred after a course of study of 2 years is not entitled to recognition.

(c) Government has no power to issue directions to the Bar Council in this regard.

Sanction to install a pump at Muhammadpur

200. PANDIT D. N. TIWARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 136 dated 25th July 1978 regarding norms for locating diesel pumps in rural areas and state:

(a) whether the sale of diesel at Muhammadpur is less than 80 KL per month and population less than a lakh;

(b) whether inspite of a report of high officials of I.O.C. against sanction of another pump at Muhammadpur and refusal of permission in 1976-77, installation of another pump at Muhammadpur was sanctioned against all norms and procedure in 1978;

(c) whether any enquiry has been set up for this flouting of norms and procedure for installation of pumps; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Currently the sale of HSD at existing retail outlet at Mohammadpur is less than 80 KLs per month. However, potential of this location as estimated by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) is 120 KLs per month and the sale at the said outlet during April, 1978 was 90 KLs Mohammadpur falls in Baikuntpur Block with a population of over 1 lakh.

(b) On the basis of enquires/ examiniation made by IOC, it was held that technically the Corporation was not committed to award retail outlet dealership at the second location.

Subsequently, on review it was decided by IOC to sanction a second retail outlet at Mohammadpur in January, 1978 because action taken by IOC's Divisional Office at Patna in applying for "No Objection Certificate" for installation of a second retail outlet at Mohammadpur, was deemed as implied commitment. The norms referred to in the answer given to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 136 dated 25-7-1978, were prescribed in March, 1978.

(c). Direction has been issued to IOC to fix responsibility for following a defective procedure by the Patna Office.

(d) Enquiry regarding fixing of responsibility is in progress and the new pump has not yet been commissioned.

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12 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET, 1979-80

MR. SPEAKER: The Railway Minister to present the Budget. . (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: I have discussed this matter. regarding Vietnam both with the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs as well as with the Minister of External Affairs. I propose to allow a regular debate on the subject tomorrow.

The Railway Minister.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Mr. Speaker, I rise to present to the House an account of the performance of the Indian Railways during the current year and the Annual Financial Statement showing the estimated receipts and expenditure for the year 1979-80. While presenting the Budget for 1978-79, I had proposed a number of measures, offering a better deal to the rail-users, particularly the II class passengers, and to the railway staff. I am glad to say that despite the difficulties encountered by the railways due to the fury of floods and other odds, including public agitations unrelated to railway problems, 1978-79 has been yet another year of concerted efforts by the Railways to accomplish the task assigned to them.

ACTUALS FOR 1977-78—RECORD SURPLUS

2. Before I proceed to discuss the Railways' performance during 1978-79 and the Revised Estimates for the year, I would like to refer to the actual financial results of 1977-78. **I am happy to inform the House that in the 125 year of the Indian Railways, as against the projected surplus of Rs. 89.32 crores in the Revised Estimates, the Railways actually achieved an all-time record surplus of Rs. 126.23 crores.** The increase in the net surplus has been achieved despite the originating revenue loading of goods traffic falling short of the Revised Estimates by about three million tonnes through stringent economy measures, curtailment of revenue expenditure in tune with the decline in traffic and better realisation of out-standing dues. This increase in surplus during 1977-78 over the Reserved Estimates will stand credited to the Revenue Reserve Fund and will go to reduce the burden of the Railway's debt to the General Revenues.

PERFORMANCE DURING 1978-79

3. During the current financial year, rail oprations received a severe setback on as many as five of the nine Zonal Railways between July and October 1978 on account of unprecedented heavy rains and floods, extensive breaches, sinkage of tracks, hill slips, unsafe conditions of bridges in several areas and even washing away of some of the bridges. The floods and resulting breaches in early September in North India brought about complete suspension of traffic from the East via Mughalsarai for nearly three weeks. Then, the heavy rains and floods in West Bengal and Bihar brought about one of the most serious spells of dis-

locations ever faced by the Indian Railways. Nearly 35,000 wagons—most of them loaded—remained immoblised in the eastern sector. The railwaymen, true to their traditions, rose to the occasion. The engineers and other staff, working round the clock, restored the damaged tracks in record time **Due to the flood havoc Railways lost about Rs. 30 crores by way of repairs to track and equipment as well as loss of revenue due to disruption in traffic.**

4. Added to these difficulties was the immobilisation of wagons due to strike in ports. The public agitations, as in Marathwada and Bihar, also caused a great damage to the Railways. Whether the agitations were "Anti-reservationists" or "Reservationists", the Railways attracted the wrath of both. probably because some of the railway coaches are reserved and others unreserved.

5. Even during these dislocations, Railways closely monitored the movement of essential commodities and were able to ensure that thermal power stations, steel plants, cement factories and other major industries were not much affected for want of raw materials It is commendable that in spite of the floods and other interruptions, Railways could load over 15 million tonnes of originating revenue-earning traffic, both in September and October, and over 16 million tonnes in November, which was even higher than the loading in November 1977. **Thus, although the cumulative originating revenue loading upto December fell short of the budget target by over 16 million tonnes and was lower than the previous year's loading by about 8 million tonnes, the Railways hope to reach a level of about 205 million tonnes by the end of March 1979.**

6. While assessing the performance of the Railways during 1978-79, in the face of several adverse factors mentioned by me earlier, one more point has to be borne in mind, i.e. the change in the pattern of movement of traffic of several commodities leading to phenomenal increase in the average distance of haul thereof. For example, due to complete stoppage of foodgrains import through various ports, the average lead of foodgrains traffic has risen sharply from 948 kilometres in 1976-77 to 1319 kilometres upto the end of November 1978 or an increase of over 39 per cent. Lead of fertiliser traffic, which was around 939 kilometres in 1976-77, is now 1088 kilometres or an increase of 16 per cent. The position is similar in the case of cement where the lead has gone up from 649 kilometres to 821 kilometres or an increase of 26 per cent; petroleum products from 594 kilometres to 700 kilometres (17.85 per cent) and even in the case of finished steel the lead has gone up by 7 per cent. **The total transportation task to be undertaken by the Railways upto the end of March 1979 will thus be quite comparable to that during the last year.**

7. The passenger traffic showed a growth rate of 3.3 per cent in the number of passengers originating upto November 1978 and the earnings were 6.5 per cent higher than the corresponding period of the pervious year. These factors have been taken into account while revising the estimates for the year 1978-79 to which I will refer later.

8. Apart from maintaining an improved level of operations, after the setbacks in the earlier part of the year, the Railways have also maintained a better record in relation to accidents involving casualities, which have been fewer as compared to the previous year. **After December 1977 there has been no major accident due to sabotage following the introduction of intensive track patrolling by gangmen and men of Railway Protection Force.**

9. Various steps have been taken, in co-ordination with the State Government agencies, to curb crimes on running trains. To instil greater sense of security among the travelling public, escorts have alsao been deployed on trains running through vulnerable areas. **About 850 trains are now being escorted by armed G.R.P. and R.P.F.**

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men. In order to augment the strength of the Government Railway police for better policing of the Railways the Ministry of Railways have now agreed to 50.50 formula for sharing the cost of G. R. P. with the State Governments.

10. Honourable Members will be glad to know that during 1978-79, it has been possible to introduce 64 new trains and extend the runs of 42 existing trains. **During the 23 months since the new Government took over, 307 additional trains were introduced and the runs of 177 trains were extended.**

11. While presenting the Budget for 1978-79, I had informed the House that I would be paying particular attention to the second class passengers by making their travel quicker, safer and more comfortable. In fulfilment of this promise, several steps have been taken which I would like to recount quite briefly:—

(i) Besides Gitanjali Express, started in November, 1977, five more long distance classless and comfortable super-fast trains have been introduced during the current year, *viz.*,

(a) **Navjivan Express between Ahmedabad and Madras.**

(b) **Gandhigram Express between Ahmedabad and Porbandar/ Bhavnagar.**

(c) Konark Express between **Bhubaneshwar and Secunderabad.**

(d) Minar Express between **Secunderabad and Bombay.**

(e) Himgari Express between **Howrah and Jammu Tawi.**

(ii) By providing cushioned berths and back-rests in second class sleeper coaches, comforts of first class travel have been provided at second class fares in a number of trains. As a rule, only cushioned second class coaches are now being manufactured.

(iii) First class coaches are being gradually replaced by II class air-conditioned two-tier sleeper coaches. First class air-conditioned coaches are also being progressively phased out. According to the new scheme, the Railways will gradually provide only four types of accommodation—second class sleeper coaches with padded berths, second class coaches with cushioned seats, second class A.C. two-tier sleepers and second class A.C. chair cars. The Railways are thus moving towards a system of classless and comfortable travel.

AN. HON. MEMBER: No water?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We will provide you with water soon.

(iv) For the first time, double-decker train service—the Sinhagarh Express made its debut in India on the Bombay-Pune section with twelve coaches manufactured by the Integral Coach Factory. More such coaches will be pressed into service on over-crowded sections like Howrah-Asansol, Delhi-Meerut and Bombay-Surat in course of time.

(v) Further progress has been made on the manufacture of a proto-type of new second class 3-tier sleeper coach with more toilets and increased water supply facilities. This coach, which will be longer than the existing coach, will accommodate 77 passengers and will have cushioned berths and back-rests tinted window glass to prevent glare, one western style toilet, additional racks for storing meal-trays in hygienic condition, higher capacity water tanks, space to keep linen and bedding in sleeper coaches, two wash-basins with taps outside the toilets, ash trays, additional coat-hooks and better lighting.

(vi) To increase the passenger-carrying capacity of the existing trains, a new innovation of running longer passenger trains, hauled by two locomotives, with 21 coaches,

instead of the usual 13 bogies, has been introduced. If this experiment on the New Delhi-Madras Tamil Nadu Express succeeds, more trains will be considered for double-heading. As a result of the double-heading, the accommodation in the Tamil Nadu Express has been more than doubled. This innovation will relieve overcrowding on saturated sections and also reduce scope for malpractices in reservations.

(vii) The arrangement of cheap and tasty 'Janata Khana', which is now available on 73 long distance trains, is being extended to a number of other trains.

AN HON. MEMBERS: No taste.

PROF. MADAN DANDAVATE: It defends upon the taste.

12. I am happy to inform the House that industrial relations on the Railways have been extremely satisfactory since the new Government took over. This is reflected in the substantial reduction in the number of man-days lost. The number of man-days lost on the Railways during 1977-78 was only 1858, as against an average of 1,32,828 per year during the previous ten years excluding the period 1974 railway strike.

13. As I have already indicated earlier, a number of decisions benefiting almost all sections of railwaymen have been taken. I would first like to refer to the items mentioned in my last budget speech under the head 'New Deal to the Railwaymen' which have been implemented. These include—

*Completion of the special *ad hoc* programme of providing additional staff amenities from the special grant of Rs. 15 crores in the current year.

*20 to 30 per cent increase in the rate of running allowance for one lakh loco and traffic running staff and implementation of 10-hour duty rule for the loco running staff through creation of additional posts.

*Completion of the process of promoting for the first time 50,000 class IV staff to the selection grade.

*Opening of new Railway Service Commissions at Secunderabad and Gauhati.

*Launching of special drives for filling up vacancies reserved for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. As many as 128 scheduled caste and scheduled tribe class I officers and 3,619 scheduled caste and scheduled tribes candidates in class III posts were recruited or promoted during the last financial year, thus improving their percentage of representation.

14. I would now like to refer to come other measures taken for the improvement of the working and service conditions of different categories of staff on the Railways in the current financial year. These are —

*Creation of higher grade posts for skilled artisan staff on the basis of the Interim Report of the Railway Workers Classification Tribunal benefiting about two lakh arisen staff.

*Revision in the rates of incentive bonus for workshop staff, with retrospective effect from 1-8-1975, benefiting about one lakh employees in Railway workshops and production units.

*Revision in the ratio of different grades of skilled posts in respect of carriage and wagon staff, including safaiwalas.

*Upgradation of about 7,000 posts from the base grade of the relevant class III categories to higher grades in pursuance of the decision taken in the Departmental Council Meeting in December, 1977.

*Upgradation of the scale of pay for several other categories of class III and class IV staff, such as stock verifiers, stenographers, stores watchmen, daftries, train starters, assistant traction loco controllers,

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coal commercial staff and some staff working in the Family Welfare Organisation on the Railways.

*Restoration of the system of annual cadre review of class I and class IV staff by the Zonal Railways in accordance with the percentages fixed for the various grades in each scale.

*Improvement in the working of licensed porters and vendors by making them eligible for certain facilities such as medical treatment, admission of their children in Railway schools, transfer of their licence badge to their sons or nearest relatives in case of old age or physical unfitness or death, free use of rest shelters wherever provided etc.

*Confirmation of all the 1080 Temporary Officers, who were recruited through the Union Public Service Commission nearly twenty years ago but had remained temporary so long. That process has been completed.

*Codre review for class I and class II officers, which will streamline the prospects and avenues of promotion for them.

CAPITAL STRUCTURE: EXPORT COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

15. The rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to the General Revenues for 1978-79, as well as other ancillary matters, have been considered by the Railway Convention Committee, on the basis of the memorandum recently submitted to it by the Railway Ministry, incorporating some of the recommendations of the Expert Group (which included the representatives of the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission) on the Capital Structure of the Railways. It is significant that such a thorough review of the capital structure of the Railways has been undertaken for the first time since the separation of the Railway Finance from the General Finance in 1924.

16. Some of the important recommendations of the Expert Group, accepted by the Government and the Railway Convention Committee, are—

(i) The Railways will no longer be called upto to obtain loans from the General Revenues for meeting shortfalls in dividend payments. If, in any year, there is a shortfall in the payment of dividend, this would be treated as a deferred liability to be paid eventually as and when adequate surplus is generated, and the position reviewed after a period of 10 years.

(ii) The accumulated interest portion of the loan liability under Revenue Reserve Fund amountilng to Rs. 93.95 crores, will be written off. The balance amount of Rs. 122.19 crores will be treated as a deferred dividend liability.

(iii) Dividend reliefs on certain items such as the capital cost of new lines taken up on other than financial considerations, capital cost of ferry services, capital cost of welfare buildings and payment of a reduced rate of dividend at 3.5 per cent on the capital cost of residential buildings.

(iv) The total amount of dividend reliefs will be contributed as a separate specific subsidy from the General Revenues.

(v) The existing arrangement of obtaining loans from the General Revenues for meeting the expenditure under Development Fund will continue but such loans will be charged interest at the rate applicable to State Governments, instead of at borrowing rate.

17. As the Railway Convention Committee's recommendations in regard to the rate of dividend etc. for 1979-80, are yet to be accepted by Parliament the Budget Estimates for the

coming year have been prepared on the same basis as recommended by the Committee for the two earlier years viz., 1977-78 and 1978-79.

Committee on SOCIAL BURDENS

18. As mentioned by me while presenting the Budget for current year, a high level Committee, consisting of representatives of the Ministries of Finance and Shipping and Transport, Planning Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the Ministry of Railways, was constituted to review the entire question of social obligations borne by the Railways and the question of subsidising the Railways to cover these losses. The Committee' Report has already been received and is under consideration of the Government.

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL BURDENS

19. After the presentation of the Railway Budget for 1978-79, the Railways had to bear an additional burden of Rs. 64 crores, arising out of new levies imposed through the General Budget, payment of additional instalment of dearness allowance, increase in the price of steel and fulfilment of some pending staff demands. Besides, there was a loss of Rs. 30 crores to the Railway due to the devastating floods in Northern and Eastern India.

20. Against this background, some prophets of gloom had predicted a very heavy deficit. I am, however, sorry to disappoint them all by projecting a surplus for even 1978-79. The Revised Estimates of gross traffic receipts have been placed at Rs. 2165 crores, against the Budget Estimates of Rs. 2220 crores, i.e., a reduction of only Rs. 55 crores from the Budget Estimates. As regards working expenses, the Revised Estimates are Rs. 1686 crore, against the Budget Estimates of Rs. 1701 crores i.e., a saving of Rs. 15 crores.

21. Thus, despite the post-budgetary burdens and losses due to floods, the year 1978-79 is expected to end with a surplus of Rs. 27.73 crores, as against the Budget Estimates of Rs. 66.43 crores, after providing for Rs. 145 crores towards Depreciation Reserve Fund and Rs. 50 crores for Reserve Fund and after making full payment of Dividend to the General revenues to the extent of Rs. 230.48 crores. The estimated surplus has been made possible through effective monitoring of expenditure and tighter budgetary control.

22. As mentioned by me earlier, the acceptance of the recommendations of the Expert Group on the Railways' Capital Structure will bring in certain reliefs in the payment of dividend, which would amount to about Rs. 10 crores for the year 1978-79. If this is also taken into account, the surplus for 1978-79 would go up to Rs. 38 crores. Pending approval by Parliament, I am not reflecting this relief in the Revised Estimates now presented to the House.

PLAN OUTLAY FOR 1978-79

23. The Railways' developmental programme for 1978-79 envisaged a total outlay of Rs. 535.30 crores (including Rs. 15 crores for the Metropolitan Transport Projects and Rs. 10 crores for investment in road services). In order to make up the arrears of Railways' share of equity in the State Road Transport Corporations, an additional amount of Rs. 16 crores was provided by a supplementary grant in the last session of Parliament. The provision under Rolling Stock was also increased to provide for purchase of additional 3000 wagons. Thus, the revised estimate of Plan outlay during 1978-79 is now expected to be Rs. 553 crores, against the Budget Estimate of Rs. 535 crores.

ANNUAL PLAN FOR 1979-80

24. I had informed the House, while presenting the Budget for 1978-79, that the Working Group set up by the Planning Commission were making an assessment of rail transport requirements for the next fixe years and for formulating the requisite development programmes. The Working Group have since completed their assessment

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of transport requirements upto 1982-83 and have made their recommendations to the Planning Commission. The Plan, as recommended by them, lays greater emphasis, then in the earlier plans, on rehabilitation of track, rolling stock and other assets of the Railways while, at the same time, providing for further development of Railways' network and modernisation of railway workshops to facilitate increased productivity through introduction of new and more sophisticated plant and machinery.

25. The annual plan for 1979-80, as finalised provides an amount of Rs. 650 crores for the Railways. This allocation is higher by Rs. 97 crores than the previous year's revised outlay of Rs. 553 crores. The allotment for 1979-80 includes a provision of Rs 288 crores for the rolling stock or an increase of Rs. 50 crores over the revised outlay for the current year and an amount of Rs. 42 crores for new lines i.e., an increase of Rs. 11 crores over the revised outlay for the current year. The plan outlay for 1979-80 also provides for a step up of the allocation for passenger and other railway users' amenities to Rs. 5 crores from Rs. 4 crores in the previous year. The list of 'Passenger Amenities' has been reviewed and some items, which are either in the nature of safety works or unremunerative operating improvement works have been deleted from this list. With these changes in the norms of allocation, the actual availability of resources will be even higher and enable provision of more facilities for rail-users. The plan-head 'Passenger and other Railway Users' Amenities' is also being split up from the year 1979-80, to show allotment of funds and expenditure on 'Passenger Amenities' as distinct from 'Other Railway Users' Amenities'.

RAILWAYS' DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME—NEW LINES, CONVERSIONS AND SURVEYS

26. In allocating funds to work in hand and also to new lines, conversions and surveys, care has been taken to see that States in all regions of the country are covered in one way or the other.

New Lines

27. In keeping with our policy of concentrating each year on some of the schemes and completing them expeditiously, four new railway line projects were completed in all respects and will not find place in the next year's budget. The second place of Shahdara-Saharanpur line, an agriculture-oriented project from Baghpat Road to Shamli in Uttar Pradesh has been completed and commissioned during the year. The work on Hassan-Mangalore project in Karnataka, the first phase of Trivandrum-Tirunelveli/Kanyakumari line in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, which will provide a link from Trivandrum to Kanyakumari via Nagercoil, the link from Kalyani to Kalyani Township in West Bengal and the first phase of Rohtak-Bhiwani line —from Rohtak to Kalanaur—in Haryana are nearing completion and are expected to be opened for traffic in the next few months. I am glad to say that specific target dates have been fixed for various projects, which are being adhered to in all cases.

28. The other projects on which work will be stepped up and completed fully or partially during the next financial year are—Karaila Road to Jayant in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, Bassein Road to Diva in Maharashtra, the remaining portion of Shahdara-Saharanpur line in Uttar Pradesh, Bibinagar-Nalgonda section of Nadikude-Bibinagar line and Bhadrachalam Road to Manguru in Andhra Pradesh. Jakhapura-Daitari section of Jakhapura-Banspani line in Orissa, the remaining portion of Rohtak-Bhiwani line in Haryana, Howrah-Bargachia section of Howrah-Amta line in West Bengal and Apta-Pen portion of Apta-Roha line of the West Coast Konkan Railway. The work on Hasanpur-Sikri line in Bihar, which had remained frozen till now, will also be

taken up and progress will continue to be made on Nadiad-Modasa broad gauge line in Gujarat.

29. As the Honourable Members are already aware, construction of new railway lines to serve six Hill States in the North-Eastern Region viz., Meghalaya, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland and Mizoram was taken up during the current financial year through supplementary grants. These six lines are:—

(i) BG. line from Gauhati to Burnihat in Assam and Meghalaya

(ii) M.G. line from Dhaarmanagar to Kumarghat in Tripura

(iii) M. G. line from Balipara to Bhalukpong in Arunachal Pradesh

(iv) M. G. line from Silchar to Jiriban in Manipur

(v) M. G. line from Amguri to Tuli in Nagaland and

(vi) M.G. line from Lalaghat to Bhairabi in Mizoram.

Adequate funds have been provided for the construction of these lines during the next financial year and it will be possible to make substantial progress on all these schemes.

30. The policy regarding construction of new railway lines is still under consideration of the National Transport Policy Committee. The interim report of the Committee on this issue is expected to be received shortly.

31. In the meantime, I have made provision in the budget for construction of the Ernakulam-Alleppey railway line in Kerala for which there has been a strong and persistent demand and which is required to serve a number of new industries coming up in that area. Tupkadih-Talgeria line in Bihar, which is essential for the movement of traffic to be generated as a result of the expansion of Bokaro Steel Plant, has also been included. At present, I am unable to include more projects in this Budget due to constraint on resources. However, as mentioned by me earlier, the outlay on new lines has been stepped up from Rs. 31 crores in the current year to Rs. 42 crores next year so that projects already in hand can be speeded up.

Gauge Conversion Projects

32. In the case of gauge conversion projects also, the same policy of concentrating on some of the projects and completing them expeditiously and on schedule is being followed. Gauge conversion of the line from Suratgarh to Bhatinda in Rajasthan and Punjab has been completed and commissioned for traffic during the year. Broad gauge line was extended from Sonepur upto Palezaghat in Bihar, which would facilitate movement of passengers from Muzaffarpur and Samastipur sides to Patna. The provision of funds for New Bongaigaon-Gauhati conversion project in Assam was stepped up during the year and it is now proposed to be completed by 1980. Work on conversion of Barabanki-Samastipur section in U.P. and Bihar and Viramgam-Okha/Porbandar section in Gujarat has also been stepped up, and it is planned to complete the entire Barabanki-Samastipur project and the first phase of Viramgam-Okha/Porbandar gauge conversion project from Viramgam to Kanalus by 1980. It is also proposed to extend the Samastipur-Barabanki conversion project upto Lucknow. The work on Barauni-Katihar and Manmad-Aurangabad section of Manmad-Prli Vaijnath projects in the backward regions of Bihar and Maharashtra respectively will also be speeded up. Construction of a parallel broad gauge line from Delhi to Rewari in Haryana and the second metre gauge line from Kishangarh to Phulera with broad gauge infra-structure, which will constitute the first phase of Delhi-Ahmedabad gauge conversion project, is under consideration.

33. I have also included the gauge conversion of Bangalore-Mysore line in

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this budget for which there has been a pressing demand from the State of Karnataka as it is considered essential for the development of industries in the Mysore area. The outlay on gauge conversion projects has also been stepped up from Rs. 27 crores in the current year to Rs. 40 crores next year.

Surveys

34. Surveys for construction of new railway lines from (i) Budge Budge to Namkhana and (ii) Domohani to Changrabandha in West Bengal, (iii) Bikaner to Chattargarh in Rajasthan, (iv) Jammu to Udhampur in J & K State, (v) Ranchi Road to Giridih via Hazaribagh Town and Koderma, (vi) Manerhill to Baidyanath Dham and (vii) Gaya to Rajgir in Bihar have either been completed or are nearing completion. Surveys for new lines from (i) Barwadih to Karonji in Bihar and M.P., (ii) Khalilabad to Balrampur and (iii) Konch to Jalaun in U.P., (iv) Lalitpur to Singrauli via Khajuraho, Satna and Rewa in U.P., and M.P.. (v) Talcher to Sambalpur in Orissa and (vi) Koraput to Parvatipuram in Orissa and Andhra are well in progress. Surveys for conversion of Rupsa-Bangriposi line in Orissa from narrow gauge to broad gauge and its further extension to meet the Tatanagar-Kharagpur line and also for the conversion of Sitapur-Burhwal, Shahganj-Mau and Varanasi-Chupra metre gauge lines in U.P. to broad gauge are also in hand. Surveys for a new broad gauge line from Karur to Madurai and gauge conversion from Madurai to Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu were approved in the supplementary grants obtained in January 1979.

35. In addition to the above, further surveys for new railway lines from (i) Kharagpur to Digha in West Bengal, (ii) Kota to Chittorgarh via Bundi in Rajasthan and (iii) Manickgarh to Chandur in Vidarbh region have been included in this Budget. The last two projects are meant to serve cement plants to be set up in the areas and construction of these lines, after the survey reports are received, may have to be given top priority. The final location survey for a new line from Jagadhri to Paonta in Haryana and Himachal Pradesh will also be undertaken during the budget year.

36. In the past, project-oriented railway lines meant only industry-oriented lines. Now, with our new perspective in favour of rural development, we will consider agriculture-oriented lines also as project-oriented lines claiming priority. (*Interruptions*).

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION

37. Electrification works on 949 route kilometres in three sections viz., Gudur-Madras-Trivellore on the Southern Railway, Vijayawada-Gudur on the South Central Railway and Waltair-Kirandul on the South Eastern Railway are in progress. These are expected to be definitely completed in phases during 1979-80 and 1980-81. The suburban services between Madras-Gummidipundi and Madras-Trivellore will be electrified very shortly and EMU services will be introduced.

38. Work on the electrification of Delhi-Mathura section, which has the highest density of traffic on the north-south route, has also been commenced in the current year. As a sequel to the study carried out jointly with the Planning Commission on the economics of electric traction vis-a-vis diesel traction. It is proposed to take up electrification work on the highest density trunk route of Vadodara-Ratlam and Godhra-Anand sections (340 kilometres) on the Western Railway. Accordingly, this work has been included in the Budget for 1979-80.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT PROJECTS

39. The allotment for the Metropolitan Rail Transport Projects for 1979-80 has been stepped up to Rs. 18 crores from Rs. 15 crores in the previous

year. Out of this, Rs. 16 crores will be utilised for the underground railway project in Calcutta, Rs. 1.75 crores for the Metropolitan Transport Project in Bombay, and the balance for the projects in Delhi and Madras. (*Interruptions*)

40. The House will be happy to know that the progress on the underground railway project in Calcutta has been accelerated in the current year. Honourable Members may recall that a special legislation—the Ministry of Railways (Construction of Works) Act—was passed by the Parliament in August last year to enable speedy acquisition of land and tunnelling under private property. Orders for proto-type rakes of specially-designed metro rolling stock have already been placed and the proto-types will be ready for trials between Dum Dum and Bolgachia in 1981. It is expected that the first phase of the project, from Dum Dum to Shambazar in the north and Esplanade to Tollyganj in the south, will be commissioned by 1984-85. It is also hoped that the rest of the length between Shambazar and Esplanade will be commissioned by 1986.

41. In Bombay, work has since commenced on the construction of a flyover at Bandra to connect the slow lines of the Western Railway with the Harbour Branch Lines of the Central Railway and optimisation of the Harbour Branch Lines. In Delhi, a project for provision of electrified rail commuter services in the Delhi Urban area, at a cost of Rs. 21.61 crores, has been included in the Budget for 1979-80. In Madras, investigations are on hand for optimisation of the Madras Beach-Guindy metre gauge system.

IMPROVEMENT OF CATERING SERVICES

42. Honourable Members in this House and the public outside have been demanding further improvement in catering services on trains and at stations. Out of over 7,000 stations on the Indian Railways, catering service is at present provided at as many as 3,000 stations, partly departmentally and partly managed by contractors 70 major stations have departmental catering at present and at 41 other stations both departmental and contrat catering coexist. In order to give better service. I have decided to introduce departmental catering fully at these 41 stations at the earliest and also to departmentalise the catering service at all other important stations in phases.

43. As regards catering in trains, on 43 Mail and Express trains, including 25 super-fast trains, the service is run departmentally. At present, 30 other Mail/Express trains have contractor-managed catering services. I have, therefore, decided that, as a policy, catering services on all Mail, Express and super-fast trains would, henceforth, be provided only departmentally. As a first step, the contractor-managed Mail/Express and super-fast trains will be brought under departmental catering expeditiously. The Catering Department will also be suitably strengthened and arrangements for more intensive training to catering staff will be made.

44. Formation of a Railway Catering Corporation, as an autonomous body under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways, to take over the entire catering service on the Indian Railways, has been suggested by several Members of Parliament and others. This will be examined in depth.

MORE AMENITIES TO PASSENGERS AND RAIL-USERS

45. Honourable Members of this House are aware of the new shift in the emphasis on provision of more and more amenities to common passengers in preference to the affluent classes. In pursuance of this policy, I propoe to provide a few more amenities to passengers in the coming months.

46. In order to remove complaints about lack of supply of drinking water in trains, I propose making special arrangements to ensure that all im-

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portant trains will have the arrangement of water supply in the trains, apart from water supply being arranged at stations where the trains halt. For this purpose, I have decided that in all Mail and Express trains, drinking water will be provided in earthen pots (*Matkas* and *Surais*) with the facility of earthen tumblers (*Kullads*). While this would add to the convenience of the travelling public, especially during the hot weather, it will also provide an incentive to the cottage industry manufacturing potteries, in consonance with the new industrial policy of the Government.

47. I had referred earlier to the innovation of longer passenger trains hauled by two locomotives. In order to make for effective communication between the driver and guard in the longer trains, walkie-talkie sets have been introduced in the new longer Tamil Nadu Express trains. Similar facilities are proposed to be introduced in all super-fast trains progressively.

48. As the super-fast trains are carrying passengers over long distances, it is proposed to provide on these trains, as an experimental measure, the facility of news broadcasts through a public address system, which will also render music at other times for the entertainment of the travelling public. If successful, this will be extended to other Mail and Express trains progressively.

49. In order to improve the convenience and safety of transportation of commodities suitable for movement in containers, it is proposed to expand the containerised freight service and extend it even for transportation of goods overseas, apart from inland traffic. This would contribute to more speedy transportation of such goods while providing door-to-door service for rail-users and involving reduced handling, etc.

50. As the Honourable Members are aware, complaints about non-availability of wagons have been made from time to time both on the floor of the House and through communications to me. One of the reasons is the delay in the unloading of wagons by some traders who tend to use the wagons as warehouses. I have issued instructions to enforce the rules regarding the free time allowed for unloading of wagons strictly and also for auctioning of commodities in case of failure to unload and release wagons in time by consignees trying to manipulate prices.

51. I am also glad to inform the House that I have decided to electrify, in the coming year, all railway stations not so far electrified and located within a kilometre of an existing power supply line.

SPECIAL CONCESSION TO KISANS

52. Kisans are now paying a concessional fare of 3/4th of the normal fare when travelling in small groups of 20 and more, and 2/3rd the normal fare when travelling in special trains. This concession is allowed for visiting the country's river valley and other national projects, as also research centres and Agricultural Universities.

In order to enable the kisans to acquire knowledge of modern technology and processes in agriculture, I have decided to extend this travel concession to kisans visiting industrial and agricultural exhibitions also at the national level. This is in pursuance of the declared policy of the Government to give priority to rural development.

STRENGTHENING OF PUBLIC RELATIONS ORGANISATION ON THE RAILWAYS

53. For some time, I have been thinking of strengthening the Public Relations Organisation on the Railways with a view to improving the response of Railway Organisation to public criticism and suggestions, as well as disseminating information promptly about the activities and achievements of the Railways in

various areas of operations. As a first step, the Railways would be having about a dozen Public Relations Officers in important cities and State Capitals, in addition to those at Railway Headquarters to have a proper liasion between the public and the railway management.

SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS

54. Honourable Members may recall my assurance that claims preferred on railways will be settled within six weeks. The House will be happy to know that the average time taken for settlement of claims in the first 7 months of the current financial year has come down to 37 days as against the average of 46 days during the previous year. Besides, in the first six months of the current year the number of claims cases, pending for three months or more, has been further brought down to 4760 from 6254 as at the end of previous year.

SAFETY IN RAIL TRAVEL

55. The High-powered Railway Accidents Enquiry Committee to which I had made a brief reference in the last Budget Speech started functioning from 27th March, 1978. The first report of the Committee is expected to be ready by the middle of this year.

56. In order to step up the work of track renewals, the outlay for 1979-80 has been increased to Rs. 65 crores, as against the provision of Rs. 51 crores this year. As the entire finance for track renewal works has to come from internally generated resources of the Railways, a major effort will have to be made to raise the resources if the replacement commitments are to be fulfilled, to ensure safe and efficient rail operations. I will be referring to this subject later in this speech.

STREAMLINING OF ADMINISTRATION

57. While presenting the Budget for the year 1978-79 I had indicated that a further exercise had been taken up to work out the details of devolution of powers from the General Managers to the Divisional Superintendents. The General Managers have since reviewed the powers of their Divisional Superintendents and, after taking into account the local working conditions and other relevant factors, have redelegated some more of their powers.

58. I am glad to inform the House that the divisional administrative setup is also being strengthened by posting senior administrative officers as Divisional Railway Managers, as indicated in my last Budget Speech. This process has already been completed in 33 out of the 53 Divisions.

FORMATION OF SONPUR DIVISION

59. In order to give more rail facilities to the people of North Bihar and to improve the efficiency of the administrative machinery, the Sonpur Transportation Division has been upgraded to a fullfledged Divisional Headquarters on the North Eastern Railways. This step has been widely welcomed by the people of the area.

CONSULTANCY SERVICES BY THE INDIAN RAILWAYS

60. I am glad to say that both the public sector undertakings under the Ministry of Railways *viz.* the Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) and the Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON) have made profits in 1977-78. The RITES earned a profit of Rs. 28.64 lakhs and declared a dividend of 25 per cent; the IRCON also earned a small profit, for the first time during 1977-78. The House will be interested to know that while continuing to provide assistance in special assignments to Zaire, Ghana and Philippines, the RITES have also secured a prestigious contract for the management of the Nigerian Railways. The first team of the top level experts has already taken over at Nigeria. It is for the first time that the Indian Railways would be rendering managerial skill on such a massive scale. It is indicative of the high technical

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skill and managerial efficiency and expertise of the Indian Railways.

61. I am also happy to inform the House that very recently the RITES have secured a contract for supply of supervisory and management technical personnel to help in the construction of a 540 km. rail line in Iraq.

Both RITES AND IRCON are bidding for further contracts in a number of Middle East countries and in Africa.

BRAHMAPUTRA BRIDGE PROJECT IN ASSAM

62. Honourable Members will also be glad to know that the work of constructing a second road bridge across the Brahmaputra in Assam has been entrusted to the Indian Railways. It is a clear tribute to the ingenuity and expertise of the railway engineers and to their demonstrated resourcefulness to complete projects on schedule or even ahead of schedule. We have posted a separate General Manager to be in charge of this construction, as well as the construction of six new rail lines in the North Eastern Region to which I have made a mention earlier.

PERFORMANCE OF THE PRODUCTION UNITS

63. The performance of the Railways' Production Units has shown substantial improvement during the nine months of 1978-79 compared to the corresponding period of 1977-78. The production at the Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi (102 diesel locos and power packs) and the Integral Coach Factory, Madras (566 coaches) upto December 1978 was the highest ever achieved by these two Production Units during this period in any of the previous years.

64. For the whole year 1978-79 the DLW is expected to turn out 105 locomotives, plus 34 spare diesel engines and two more diesel high capacity generating sets of 1750 KVA for supply to the Atomic Power Plant at Madras. The ICF is expected to turn out 750 fully furnished coaches of various types. The Chittaranjan Locomotive Works is expected to turn out 91 locomotives of which 14 are for supply to public sector undertakings. The CLW has also produced a new type of electric locomotive, designed by the Research, Designs and Standards Organisation of the Railways, for the Waltair-Kirandul line involving steeply graded sections, as well as a new shunting locomotive of improved design for use in steel plants.

65. The Integral Coach Factory is also manufacturing coaches for export to countries like Philippines, Uganda, Taiwan and Vietnam.

A NEW COACH BUILDING UNIT

66. The Working Group set up by the Planning Commission for the Railways' Sixth Plan had assessed a need-based requirement of about 11,000 coaches for the period upto 1982-83 but the existing capacity with the Railways' Production Units and Workshops and other coach building organisations in the country is only of the order of 7,000 coaches. I have, therefore, ordered a survey, to study the matter in depth and prepare a project report, for establishing a new coach factory under the auspices of the Indian Railways. This survey has been included in the Budget for 1979-80.

MODERNISATION OF WORKSHOPS—SPECIAL PROJECT

67. A very high percentage of the plant and machinery in the railway workshops has outlived its useful life and become due for replacement. A scheme of modernisation of these workshops has, therefore, been drawn up. This would include complete modernisation of five selected workshops viz. Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Kanchrapara Workshop on the Eastern Railway, Kharagpur Workshop on the South Eastern Railway,

Parel Workshop on the Western Railway and Matunga Workshop on the Central Railway besides renovation and replacement of machinery and plant in about 40 other workshops and sheds like Jamalpur, Lucknow, Peram bur and Jagadhri.

68. A Wheel and Axle Plant is also being set up at Yelahanka, near Bangalore, with an estimated annual capacity of 70,000 wheels and 23,000 axles. This would meet the requirements of such equipment for wagons, locos and carriages, a good part of which is being imported at present and will result in saving a considerable amount of foreign exchange on these imports. It is also proposed to set up a new unit for undertaking the manufacture of diesel loco spares. All these projects have to be completed within a time-bound programme of three years for which the International Development Association (IDA) credit of USS 190 million on soft loan terms has been obtained.

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1979-80

69. I will now deal with the Budget Estimates for 1979-80. In the Budget year it is expected that the Railways will be able to move 222 million tonnes of originating revenue traffic. The jump from about 205 million tonnes in the current year to 222 million tonnes by the end of the next financial year will, in itself, offer a stiff challenge to the Railways. Although the growth of passenger traffic during the current year has been only about 3.3 per cent upto November 1978, because of cancellation of a large number of trains due to shortage of steam coal and other reasons, it is expected that in a normal year the growth level should be higher than that and, therefore, the projection of passenger traffic for 1979-80 is being made on a growth level of 6 per cent.

Gross Traffic Receipts

70. Accordingly, the gross traffic receipts at current fare and freight are estimated at Rs. 2278 crores or Rs. 113 crores more than the Revised Estimates for the current financial year.

Working Expenses

71. Our working expenses have been placed at Rs. 1828 crores or an increase of Rs. 142 crores over the Revised Estimates for the current year. This increase in the Working expenses has become necessary to provide for better maintenance of track and rolling stock, fuel requirements for the anticipated increased level of traffic, the normal increments to staff, the throw forward liabilities for the full year of the cost of various benefits sanctioned to staff in the current year, other increase in staff costs and to meet likely increases in costs of fuel (coal, oil, electricity) and stores. We have also provided for a higher level of appropriation to Depreciation Reserve Fund to the extent of Rs. 200 crores, as against Rs. 145 crores in the current year. This is in accordance with the phased programme to overtake the requirements of replacement and renewals of track, replacement of rolling stock and plant and machinery signaling and other assets. The assessment of requirements of funds in the Sixth Plan for the current replacement and rehabilitation of assets is Rs. 1300 crores. If this is to be achieved, it is necessary to have an increased outlay for this purpose in the budget for 1979-80. The appropriation to the Pension Fund is also being increased from Rs. 50 crores in the current year to Rs. 65 crores in the next year to meet the present increased level of pensionary liabilities.

72. With the increase in the working expenses and the increased appropriation to funds to which I have just now referred, the Budget for 1979-80 is expected to result in a gap of Rs. 89 crores between our Revenue and Working Expenses, after providing for full payment of an increased dividend of Rs. 245 crores to the General Revenues.

73. From these forecasts it will be seen that the Railways will not be

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able to meet the requirement of funds for the expenditure chargeable to Development Fund which is normally met from revenue surpluses. In the budget year 1979-80 the Development Fund expenditure is expected to be about Rs. 28 crores which will have to be provided for by taking a loan from General Revenues in the event of a deficit in working results.

74. As mentioned by me earlier, the plan allocations have been stepped up considerably for the year 1979-80, as compared to the current year, to provide for higher levels of outlays on new lines and gauge conversion as well as track renewals and facilities repairs and maintenance, besides improving the suburban services. It will not be possible to meet this higher allocation without the Railways stepping up generation of internal resources.

75. As the Honourable Members are aware, despite the handsome surpluses of Rs. 89.32 crores and Rs. 126.23 crores respectively in the last two years, the financial position of the Railways has not substantially improved in view of the heavy indebtedness of the Railways to the General Revenues, largely due to the continuous heavy deficits from 1966-67. On the other hand, in the last few years increases in the costs of materials consumed by railways have been quite considerable, whereas the railway fares and freights have been maintained at the same level for the last four years in regard to passenger fares and three years in respect of goods freight. The inadequacy of Railway Revenues and consequently the Railways' inability to earn surplus in the earlier years have resulted not only in less development but also in unsatisfactory maintenance and the continued use of overaged stock and facilities, leading to frequent breakdowns and difficulties.

MR. SPEAKER: It is 1 o'clock now. I suggest to the House that we sit through and finish this matter. It may take another 15 minutes.

The Railway Minister will continue.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Revision in Freight and Fares

76. I am, therefore, left with no alternative but to propose a revision in freights and fares in selective areas which will not only bridge the gap between the receipts and expenses but also provide for increased quantum of developmental expenditure and contribute at least a part of the budgetary support required for the development programmes in the plan for 1979-80.

77. Perhaps the path of least resistance would have been not to take up any new responsibilities for railways' expansion and development and consequently not to throw any financial burdens on rail-users to generate internal resources for this purpose. I do not propose to pursue such a status-quoist approach.

78. While presenting the Railway Budget for 1978-79, I had stated that pending receipt of the report of the Rail Tariff Enquiry Committee (RTEC) there would be no alterations in the fare and freight rates of the Railways in the current financial year. (*Interruptions*) This is about last year. The RTEC, headed by an eminent economist, Dr. H. K. Paranjape, has since submitted an interim report, a synopsis of which is being circulated to the Honourable Members. The Committee had come to the conclusion:

> "It appears to us, however, that a prima facie case for ensuring that the revenue position of the Railways is improved has been established as a result of even our interim report study."

79. In their interim report the RTEC have particularly dealt with the

> "Obvious and patent anomalies as compared to the overall structure of railway tariff rates and the price trends in the country as a whole,"

and made recommendations to rectify these. They have also stated that the

> "implementation of the various recommendations is not likely to put an impossible burden on the lower income groups among the concerned sections of the population and it should not, therefore, be difficult to implement our recommendations."

RTEC's Recommendations

80. I propose to accept most of the recommendations of the RTEC with which I would deal one by one:

(i) The exemptions given to certain commodities from the levy of supplementary charge imposed in 1974 and 1976 will be withdrawn. The incidence of increase in freight, as a result, on the prices of these commodities is very insignificant, as will be seen from the details given in the Memorandum enclosed with Budget documents. The additional revenue likely to generated as a result of this proposal is Rs. 25.54 crores, as estimated by the RTEC.

(ii) The special fare table for second class (ordinary) passengers valid for distances upto 50 kms. will be replaced by the regular second class (ordinary) fares. The Committee has made this recommendation in the context of abuse by some passengers of this concessional fare by splitting up their journey into parts of 50 kms. and buying single journey tickets for each part separately. Further, as argued by the RTEC the concessional fares for the 50 kms. are very much lower than the bus fares. The increase in fares per journey will be marginal ranging from 5 paise to 25 paise, with no change upto 10 kms. at all. The abolition of the special fare table is expected to give an additional revenue of Rs. 8.39 crores.

(iii) The next recommendation is in regard to suburban and non-suburban season ticket fares. The second class suburban season ticket fares have not been changed after 1968. Even earlier, as pointed ut by the RTEC, for nearly two decades the revision in the season ticket fares had not taken place pari passu with increases in costs and increase in other fares. The RTEC have found that, as a result, there has been a gradual erosion in the basis on which season tickets are issued so that the degree of concession on them has gone on increasing progressively. Consequently, there has been a steady increase in the losses suffered by the Railways on the suburban services over the years. In fact, the losses have increased from about Rs. 9 crores in 1967-68 to almost Rs. 25 crores in 1976-77. The season ticket fares are incredibly low; for instance, a second class monthly season ticket for a distance upto 5 kms. costs only Rs. 3.90, which is equivalent to only 13 single journeys, as against the 50 journeys normally performed by a season ticket holder in a month. For other distance slabs, the costs of the monthly season ticket varies from 6¼ single journeys to 16 journeys only. In the case of first class, the monthly season ticket fares are equivalent to fare for 3 to 5 single journeys only. Sample studies made by the RTEC confirm that the overwhelming majority of suburban season ticket holders perform over 50 single journeys per month. On the basis of these 50 journeys, the equivalent fare per kilometre charged for a second class monthly season ticket holder in Bombay, for example varies from 1.5 paise at 5 kilometres and to 0.4 paise at 100 kilometres, as against 30 paise and 4 paise respectively for a single journey at normal fare. The fares in Calcutta and Madras are not very different from those in Bombay. It is thus clear that the present fares are far too low even to cover the existing costs of suburban services, leave alone providing a surplus which would enable development of these

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services, requiring large investments. A situation has been reached where the fare structure is such that every addition to the number of suburban trains adds to the losses. The Committee have, therefore, come to the conclusion that it is high time that a way is found out to break away from this vicious circle of stagnant and low fares making development and even maintenance of the suburban service difficult.

Accordingly, the Committee have recommended an increase in the monthly season ticket fares, both for second class and for first class, and that the quarterly season tickets should be charged at three times the monthly season ticket fares.

81. At the ame time, two specific concessions have been recommended by the Committee viz.

(i) that season tickets should be available for distances upto 150 kilometres, instead of the present limit of 80 kilometres, without making a distinction between suburban and non-suburban; and

(ii) where season tickets existed before 1951, for distances longer than 150 kilometres, the privilege of such season tickets should continue for the time being.

82. I am aware that the conditions of suburban travel, especially in metropolitan cities of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras need considerable improvement by way of more frequent services and better maintenance of rolling stock and track. Steps have already been initiated to replace the old and worn-out rakes and to increase the frequency of services. I have, therefore, decided to provide for minimum investments required to eliminate or reduce hardships and difficulties experienced by suburban passengers, as has also been recommended by the RTEC.

83. However, I would like to tone down the increases in season ticket fares recommended by the RTEC at the lowest segment of the distances upto 20 kilomteres so that the season ticket fares may not be increased as steeply as suggested by the Committee which would have caused distress to commuters.

84. I, therefore, propose to reduce the rates as recommended by the Committee as follows:

Distance	Recommended by the RTEC	As now proposed
1—5 kms	Rs 10	Rs 7
6—10 kms. . .	Rs. 13	Rs 11
11—15 kms. . .	Rs. 16	Rs. 14
16—20 kms. . .	Rs. 19	Rs. 17

85. The modified charges would, in effect, mean that by paying approximately for 28 to 11 single journeys, on a tapering scale, a suburban passenger will be able to travel the whole month and make any number of trips on the monthly season tickets.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Mr. Socialist, it is the weaker section of the society.

MR. SPEAKER: I think there will be a debate on this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:

86. For first class season tickets, the recommendations of the RTEC are proposed to be accepted without any change.

87. The proposed revision in the suburban and non-suburban monthly season ticket fares is expected to yield an additional revenue of Rs. 36.13 crores of which approximately Rs. 28.96 crores are in respect of suburban.

88. **The Committee have also given an alternative proposal involving a higher increase in the season ticket fares on the basis that the extra**

transport cost incurred by large numbers of people in such concentrated areas should be borne essentially by those who employ them in those areas and also by those who benefit directly or indirectly from the concentrated development of such areas and that this could be enforced by a legislation of Parliament and State Legislatures, I propose to examine this suggestion in consultation with the Law Ministry and the concerned State Governments.

89. The proposal to revise the season ticket fares is, therefore, on the basis of the lower increases suggested by the RTEC and intended to cut down losses and to provide for adequate resources immediately to launch the rehabilitation programme for the improvement of suburban services. The burden of the increase in monthly season ticket fares is not likely to be heavy on the passengers even if a comparison is made with the prevalent bus fares in the same areas.

90. The financial implications of all the RTEC's interim recommendations, as accepted with the changes, would give a total additional revenue of Rs. 70.06 crores.

No Increase in Passenger Fares

91. As regards passenger traffic, the Honourable Members are already aware of the steps I have taken to provide more and more comforts of travel to rail passengers, especially the second class passengers, by introduction of fast long distance trains with improved accommodation and conveniences like padded cushion berths, etc. Although it is necessary to generate additional resources to augment various facilities and amenities for the passengers, I do not propose to raise the other passenger fares for the present. Thus there will be no increase in fares for passenger, mail, express or super-fast trains.

Supplementary Charge on Freight Traffic

92. These proposals will not bridge the gap between traffic receipts and working expenses fully, not to speak of providing for additional funds for the enhanced plan outlays proposed for 1979-80. In these circumstances, the only method of raising additional resources at present, without disturbing the basic fare and freight structure of the rail tariff and without prejudicing the work of the RTEC, is a general increase by way of supplementary charge on goods traffic. I, therefore, propose to levy a supplementary charge of 5 per cent upto 500 kms. and 10 per cent beyond 500 kms. on all goods traffic, except salt, which I am exempting from the supplementary charge. The proposed levy of the above supplementary charge on freight will not have any significant impact on the prices, as will be seen from the details given in the Memorandum supplied with the budget documents.

93. All the above proposals, will yield an additional revenue of Rs. 178 crores (or an increase of about 7.8 per cent on the overall traffic receipts).

94. A Memorandum is being circulated to the Honourable Members giving the details of the proposals, both in respect of freight rates and suburban passenger fares.

Surplus of Rs. 88.49 crores

95. After bridging the estimated gap between the receipts and expenses the Budget for 1979-80 is expected to yield a net surplus of Rs. 88.49 crores, out of which Rs. 37 crores will be appropriated to the Development Fund to meet the withdrawal of Rs. 28 crores for expenditure in 1979-80 and payment of interest on Development Fund loan taken earlier, to the extent of Rs. 9 crores. The balance will be appropriated to the Revenue Reserve Fund to reduce the Railways' debt liability to General Revenues.

96. The indebtedness of the Railways as on 1st April, 1979 would be Rs. 346 crores (comprising Rs. 188 crores in the Revenue Reserve Fund and Rs. 158 crores in the Development Fund). This would come down to Rs. 304 crores as

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on 1st April, 1980 (made up of Rs. 146 crores in the Revenue Reserve Fund and Rs. 158 crores in the Development Fund). If the recommendations of the Expert Group on Capital Structure are approved by Parliament, the debt liability in the Revenue Reserve Fund would be reduced to about Rs. 50 crores, while the debt in the Development Fund will remain the same.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD (IYC)

97. I would like to conclude on a happy note. 1979 has been declared as "the International Year of the Child". To commemorate the year, I propose raising the age limit for free rail travel for children from 3 years as at present to 5 years as a regular measure. Above this limit and upto 12 years of age, the existing concession of half fare for the children will, however, continue. I am aware that this concession will make old men jealous of children. However, to oblige the old, I cannot afford to give this children's concession with retrospective effect. I also propose allotting a specific amount from the outlay for staff welfare for the provision of playgrounds and parks for children in railway schools and colonies wherever these do not exist at present. During the year, the Railways will also organise or help in organising special educational and sight-seeing tours for children to various historical and cultural centres, as well as other places of interest.

COOPERATION FROM ALL SECTIONS

98. All sections of the House have always given me their unstinted cooperation. I was also able to establish a meaningful rapport with the trade unions and officers' federations in the railways as well as the organisations of rail-users, including chambers of commerce, Passengers' Associations, and organisations of Kisans. Millions of rail-users continued to patronise the Railways, with understanding and forbearance, despite hardships caused due to temporary setbacks in the rail movements. The staff and the managerial cadre of the Railways, with an unfailing sense of dedication and almost a family attachment to the Railways, helped in a big way in overcoming the operational difficulties during this most trying period and kept the wheels moving. To them all, I express my deepest gratitude. Sir, I have the confidence that I shall continue to receive their wholehearted cooperation in the stupendous task of making the Railways not only a massive infrastructure for economic development but also an effective instrument of national integration to promote the unity of this great land that stretches from the lofty peaks of the Himalayas to the sacred shores of Kanyakumari.

MR. SPEAKER: We will resume our business after lunch at 2.15 p.m. when the hon. Prime Minister will make a statement on his visit to Sri Lanka. Thereafter, the other work will be taken up. The House stands adjourned till 2.15 p.m.

13.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. SPEAKER: Before I call upon the Prime Minister, I would like to inform the House that the Calling Attention relating to virginity test will stand postponed to tomorrow as the External Affairs Minister is held up in the Rajya Sabha and he would himself like to make the statement.

Mr. Prime Minister.

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTER

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I make the statement on my recent visit to Sri Lanka, I have great pleasure in introducing to you and, through you, to the House my colleague Shri Rabi Ray, Minister of Health and Family Welfare.

14.17 hrs.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER *RE* HIS VISIT TO SRI LANKA

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): Sir, on the invitation of the President of Sri Lanka I visited the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka from February 3rd to February 6th. I was also invited by the President of Sri Lanka to be the Chief Guest at their National Day celebrations on February the 4th in Kandy. I was accompanied by Shri Samrendra Kundu, Minister of State for External Affairs.

A copy of the Joint Press Statement issued at the end of my visit is placed on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3251/79].

During the visit, I had several opportunities to discuss with the President, the Prime Minister and other Ministers of the Government of Sri Lanka a wide range of subjects of bilateral interest and to exchange views on regional and international issues. I am happy to note that we agreed that there are no bilateral outstanding problems between India and Sri Lanka. Our discussions centred mainly around ways and means of bringing about closer cooperation between the two countries in all fields especially in the areas of trade and economic exchanges as well as cultural and scientific relations.

I met members of the Indian communities both in Kandy and Colombo and representatives of various Indo-Sri Lanka Associations. It is gratifying that they are contributing significantly not only to closer bilateral relations but also to the development of Shri Lanka. I had an opportunity of discussing the problems faced by some of the persons who are to be repatriated to India. Our Missions are already seized of their problems and I have directed them to facilitate the formalities required for repatriation. I reviewed with the Sri Lanka leaders the implementation of the India-Sri Lanka Agreement of 1964. The officials on both sides have been asked to streamline and improve various procedures in this regard. I also had a useful talk with the Leader of the Opposition.

I also participated in the inauguration ceremonies of the Kotmale Multipurpose Reservoir Project which is part of the prestigious Mahavali Development Scheme. The scheme will add considerably to agricultural production and power generation in Sri-Lanka, and has good potentialities of development of Sri Lanka's economy. Hon'ble Members are no doubt aware that the feasibility study for this project was financed by the Government of India and prepared by an Indian company, Water and Power Development Consultants Ltd. India does not have very large material resources; yet we do provide assistance to our friends and neighbours in their national development and I would like to take this opportunity to restate our firm intention to do whatever is possible within our resources to assist in their growth.

During my visit, I was given the privilege of addressing members of the Sri Lanka Parliament. I was able to join with the colleagues of that august body in reaffirming the common dedication of our two countries to the democratic process and its relevance even to developing societies.

Sir, the main impression that I bring back from my visit is the overwhelming warmth and cordiality which the people and Government of Sri Lanka have for India and which

[Shri Morarji Desai]

I was personally able to experience and reciprocate. It is only natural that India and Sri Lanka should strengthen these deep bonds of friendship and work towards closer economic and material cooperation to the benefit of both our countries. But over and beyond that we share a common dedication to a democratic way of life, a belief in similar spiritual values and ethics.

I would be failing in my duty if I did not place on record my gratitude to President Jayewardene and Prime Minister Premadasa for the warmth and cordiality of the reception accorded to me and also for the many gestures of personal affection which they extended to me and my party during our entire visit.

14.24 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT ON SIXTH GENERAL ELECTIONS TO LOK SABHA AND GENERAL ELECTIONS TO KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1977, VOL. I, BIENNIAL ELECTIONS BROCHURE—AN ANALYSIS—COUNCIL OF STATES AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS (1974-75), NOTIFICATIONS UNDER COMPANIES ACT, NOTIFICATION MAKING AMENDMENTS TO DELIMITATION OF PARLIAMENTARY AND ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES ORDER AND NOTIFICATIONS UNDER M.R.T.P. ACT

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Sixth General Elections to the Lok Sabha and General Elections to the Kerala Legislative Assembly, 1977—Volume I. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3241/79].

(2) A copy of Biennial Elections Brochure—an Analysis—Council of States and Legislative Councils (1974-75) (Hindi and English versions). [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3242/79].

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) The Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Fifth Amendment Rules, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 586(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st December, 1978.

(ii) The Cost Accounting Records (Dry Cell Batteries) Rules, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 45(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1979. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3243/79].

(4) A copy of Order (Hindi and English versions) issued under clause (d) of sub-section (3) of section 6 of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976, published in Notification No. S.O. 26(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 1979, making certain amendments to the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1976, in respect of the State of Kerala, under sub-section (3) of section 8 of the said Act. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3244/79].

(5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 67 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969:—

(i) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (Recruitment of Members of Staff) (Second Amendment) Rules, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 594(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th December, 1978.

(ii) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (Recruitment of Members of Staff)

(Amendment) Rules, 1979 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 63(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th February, 1979. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3245/79].

ANNUAL REPORT ETC. OF DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION FOR 1977-78

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Damodar Valley Corporation along with the Audit Report on the accounts thereof for the year 1977-78, under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948.

(2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Damodar Valley Corporation for the year 1977-78. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3246/79].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER NAVY ACT

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table, a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 185 of the Navy Act, 1957:—

(1) The Naval Ceremonial, Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous (Amendment) Regulations, 1978 published in Notification No. S.R.O. 348 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd December, 1978.

(2) The Navy (Discipline and Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 1978, published in Notification No. S.R.O. 2 in Gazette of India dated the 6th January, 1979. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3247/79].

FINANCE ACCOUNTS OF UNION GOVT. FOR 1976-77, STATEMENT RE. MARKET LOANS RAISED BY GOVT. OF INDIA DURING JANUARY, 1979 AND ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORKING OF INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS FOR 1977-78, VOLS. I TO III

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Finance Accounts of the Union Government for the year 1976-77 (Hindi and English versions). (Placed in Library. See No. LT-3248/79).

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) indicating the result of the market loans raised by the Government of India during January, 1979. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3249/79].

(3) A copy of the annual report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of Industrial and Commercial Undertakings of the Central Government for the year 1977-78 (Volumes I to III). [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-3250/70].

14.28 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

SECRETARY: Sir, I lay on the Table following three Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the last session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 8th December, 1978:—

1. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Bill, 1978.
2. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 5 Bill, 1978.
3. The Appropriation (No. 5) Bill, 1978.

2. Sir, I also lay on the Table copies, duly authenticated by the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha, of the following nine Bills passed by the Houses of

Parliament during the last session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 8th December, 1978:—

1. The Britannia Engineering Company Limited (Mokameh Unit) and the Arthur Butler and Company (Muzaffarpore) Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking Bill, 1978.

2. The Bolani Ores Limited (Acquisition of Shares) and Miscellaneous Provisions Bill, 1978.

3. The Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Bill, 1978

4. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Bill, 1978.

5. The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1978.

6. The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls (Amendment) Bill, 1978.

7. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 1978.

8. The Payment of Bonus (Amendment Bill, 1978.

9. The Sugar Undertakings (Taking Over of Management) Bill, 1978.

MR. SPEAKER: Can we take up the Calling Attention listed at the end, if they are ready? The Calling Attention concerning the External Affairs Minister has been postponed. There are two Calling Attentions. I am talking about the other one listed at the end. If the Minister is not ready, we will take it up later.

Now Mr. Baranala.

MOTION UNDER RULE 388

SUSPENSION OF PROVISION TO RULE 66

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motions for taking into consideration and passing of the Coconut Development Board Bill, 1978 and the Copra Cess Bill, 1978.'

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motions for taking into consideration and passing of the Coconut Development Board Bill, 1978 and the Copra Cess Bill, 1978.'

The motion was adopted.

14.32 hrs.

COCONUT DEVELOPMENT BOARD BILL AND COPRA CESS BILL

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): Sir, I beg to move*:

"That the Bill to provide for the development under the control of the Union of the coconut industry and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

The Coconut Development Board Bill provides for the integrated development of the coconut industry and for the establishment of a Board to be known as the Coconut Development Board, for this purpose.

India is one of the largest coconut producing countries in the world, with coconut cultivation spread over nearly

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

1.1 million hectares and an annual production of about 6000 million nuts. It provides employment to a very large number of people engaged in its cultivation and in the processing industries based on coconut. Therefore, it occupies a unique position in the life and economy of our people, especially in the coastal States where coconut cultivation is concentrated.

Copra, oil, coir and shell products are the major coconut products of commercial importance. But except in oil milling and coir manufacture, no major development has taken place for the diversification of coconut products and by-products utilisation. Even copra making, the traditional rural industry, remains to be developed on modern lines. The manufacture of dessicated coconut, a product of commercial importance with considerable potential demand is still in its infancy. The new processing techniques for the conversion of wet coconut kernel into various edible products like protein, oil, flour etc. remain to be adopted on large scale. Effective processing techniques have to be developed for the profitable utilisation of other by-products such as coconut shell, pit, coconut water etc. Valuable food products such as coconut protein have also good potentiality for commercial utilisation. Thus adequate attention has not been paid in the past to the development of coconut-based industries as also to the development of coconut crop in order to ensure adequate supply of raw material for the processing industry.

Coconut is basically a small formers' crop as more than 90 per cent of the coconut cultivators are having holdings, the average size of which is less than one hectare. The small formers are unable to undertake the task of development of the coconut industry due to paucity of resources and are, therefore, deprived of its full benefit. Improvements in the processing industry especially at the primary level will directly benefit the coconut growers who are at present left at the mercy of middlemen processors. The profitable utilisation of the valuable by-products of coconut can improve not only the overall coconut based economy of the coconut growing States but can also ensure the economic well being of millions of small and marginal coconut farmers.

The per palm yield of coconuts and the unit output of copra are very low in the country. The wide-spread prevalance of coconut diseases in Kerala and consequent decline in the productivity of coconut is a matter of great concern. For improving the productivity of the coconut holdings it is essential to have scientific management and intensive utilisation of the holdings. Research has shown that if integrate development methods on modern lines are adopted, even a small coconut holding can generate employment and income that would be sufficient for an average family. There is also great scope for expansion in coconut cultivation in non-traditional areas of coconut growing States like Orissa, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Adequate resources and concerted efforts are, however, essential for modernising the coconut industry and for utilising the potential of coconut development fully. It is necessary that an effective organisation equipped with adequate powers and financial resources and assigned exclusively for this purpose is introduced. At present there is no integrated organisation for the development of the coconut industry Hence the need for a statutory Coconut Development Board. The proposed Board will be a unified agency that will be responsible for guiding and co-ordinating all developmental and promotional needs for production, processing and marketing of coconut based products.

The functions of the Coconut Development Board include technical financial and other assistance for the development of coconut industry, supporting suitable development schemes for this purpose and promoting and financing agricultural, technological,

[Shri Surjit Singh Barnala]

industrial and economic research for coconut and coconut based products. The Board will adopt measure so that farmers, particularly the small farmers become participants in and beneficiaries of the development of coconut industry.

The finances of the Board will be provided through Coconut Development Fund that will include sums provided by the Central Government out of the proceeds of cess on copra as proposed under the Copra Cess Bill as well as grants and loans by the Central Government.

The Board shall have representatives of the coconut growing States and Union Territories the growers of coconut and coconut processing industries, Members of Parliament, concerned Central Ministries and institutions and other connected interests. Adequate representation has been given to non-officials as well as the representatives from the States.

I would crave the indulgence of the House in this connection to support me to move certain amendments to enlarge the size of the Board to 24 members. Let me also inform the House that out of the increased representation three members will be Members of Parliament.

It is hoped that the Coconut Development Board Act, when it comes into force, will, go a long way in the development of the coconut industry and the improvement of the economic well being of millions of people engaged in the coconut industry.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the development under the control of the Union of the coconut industry and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR (Trivandrum): Sir, I welcome this Bill. The coconut industry, as has been pointed out by the hon. Minister, as far as the States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are concerned..

AN HON. MEMBER: what about Andhra Pradesh?

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: Yes. Andhra Pradesh also.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA (Contai): What about West Bengal?

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: I want the coconut culture to spread to all parts of the country. As far as the present situation is concerned, coconut induttry is one of the industries in Kerala, which has a great impact on the entire economy. The demand for the formation of a Board was there for a long time and the hon. Minister has now thought it wise to form the Board.

As far as Kerala is concerned, over 20 lakhs of acres are under coconut cultivation. So, as rightly pointed out by the hon. Minister, from the stage of production to the stage of processing modernisation has become a must. As figures show, compared to Ceylon and other coconut growing countries, our yield is subtantially low. Similarly, in the matter of processing, we are not utilising all the potentialities that are available. I understand that a new experiment has been started in Ponnani to ary to utilie the coconut so that coconut protein, coconut honey, coconut oil, all these things can be processed scientifically for maximum benefit. But it is still at the experimental stage. To what extent it can be commercially worked has to be gone into. In any case, modernisation of production as well as processing deserve great attention from the Government as well as the farmers.

Coming to the composition of the Board, I was very much disappointed when it was introduced. I think it has been partially made up now. If only Government officers are to consitute the Board, then even without a Board they could have done it. The idea of this Board has been posed by the organised coconut growers. The Coconut Growers' Accociation, Kerala, which is known as the Kera Karshaka Sangham, is one of the well organised kisan organisations in the State. It was as

account of their struggle for a Board that finally our hon. Minister agreed to it. When the Board was constituted earlier, we found no representative of the growers in it. Every time we are discussing the Plan or anything else we speak about the participation of the people, the involvement of the people, but when government form committees they forget this particular aspect of giving representation to the agriculturist or that section of the people which is concerned. (Interruptions). I do not want to attribute any motive.

MR. SPEAKER: He has not much experience of coconuts!

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): He should arrange to distribute coconuts to Members of Parliament!

MR. SPEAKER: We will arrange to sell them!

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: I do not want to go into the question of today or other products. I am speaking only of the products after it has taken the shape of coconut.

As far as the utility of the coconut is concerned, its timber is useful, the roots are useful.

MR. SPEAKER: It is known as a *kalpa vriksha*.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: It is called a *kalpa vriksha*. Therefore, this amendment brought forward by the hon. Minister to include three Members of Parliament and some representation to farmers

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: It should be chaired by a Member of Parliament.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: I do not know who is to chair it, that is not the point. My main point is that there should be more representation to the direct representatives of the farmers. Since he has already accepted the principle of giving representation to them I want him to consider whether he can raise it to six from three. You can reduce the number of officers. Why do you want so many officers? Who knows anything about coconut, whether it is a tree or a plant or a shrub how many of them know? Therefore, reduce the number of Government officers and put in their place representatives of the actual farmers. Then this will be real.

Secondly, as has been pointed out by our friends here, up till now Kerala was considered to be the main State for the production of coconut. The lines of technology for development and the information is spreading. So, there are many places where this coconut cultivation can be conducted. And I think Orissa is one of the States which has a great potential for developing the cultivation of coconuts, as also parts of Bengal, but the unfortunate part is that in none of these areas are the coconut products properly utilised. For example, I find coconut in Assam. I asked them whether they use it for tapping toddy. It is news to them. It is one of the best drinks that you get from coconut.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Arrac.

MR. SPEAKER: Not arrac.

AN HON. MEMBER: Nectar.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: You call it nectar or anything else.

If it is given to the farmers in Kerala for toddy tapping they get a very handsome return. But none of the other States seem to use it for toddy tapping. Of course I know, the idea of prohibition is there. I gave a suggestion for that also. In many places oil is not extracted. In Assam and other areas and even in Orissa, they use it as tender coconut and not as dry coconut. I am pointing out all these things just to show the great potentiality of developing coconut cultivation not only in Kerala but in many other parts of the country also.

MR. SPEAKER: You can deal with the other Bill also. We will take up both together,

SHRI M N. GOVINDAN NAIR: The real problem facing the coconut cultivator is the competition from other coconut producing countries, especially Ceylon and Philipines. They compete in coconut products. Therefore, unless we develop the productivity of our own coconut plantations, it will be very difficult to compete with them. Secondly, with regard to the processing also, unless there is a body to guide and encourage, the same old type to production will continue. Thirdly, the biggest problem facing the agriculturists today is from the pests. Now the Government of India has an Institute started forty or fifty years ago. There is some root disease which ruins the coconut tree. Upto this date, they are not able to find a solution for this. The unfortunate part is, since coconut is mainly grown in Kerala and in certain other areas, the attention given by the Scientists and the Universities where such researches are going on, is not adequate. You can get international cooperation also, if you are serious about finding a solution. Now they say that it is a virus disease. Virus means what? You know. The only way to solve it is to burn the tree, destroy the tree. If that is the only way then I think a large number of coconut trees will have to be burnt down in Kerala. I do not want that we should take this dractic step. There is another step replanting the areas where coconut has been affected by this disease That has proved to be successful.

Especially the nuts taken from areas where this disease exists, but where the trees are healthy, they have a better resistance power and the replanting of such trees should be taken up. We had experience with Rubber Board. Formerly, we had this low yielding variety and in the larger interest, the Government of India decided to help the peasants in replanting They give loans without interest for replanting. The realisation takes place only after the trees start yielding. Some similar method to be found by this Board also so that replanting in a big way, where this disease has spread, is attempted. So, finding a solution for the pests and other diseases, replantation scheme, facilities for increasing production by modern methods of manuring, etc., so many things can be done in the field of increasing production and so also in the field of processing coconut how the coconut leaves can be better utilised.....

MR. SPEAKER: Coir also.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: Yes, coir also. If a properly functioning Board is there, I am quite sure that a lot of things can be done for the improvement of cultivation and production of coconuts. So, I believe, my suggestion to put in more representatives of agriculturists in the Board by reducing some of the Government representatives will be accepted by the hon. Minister. I hope, he will heed to my request.

SHRI B. K. NAIR (Mavelikara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the hon. Minister for coming forward with this Bill. I am thankful to him for having earnestly taken up this bill as the first one being taken up in this session of Parliament.

The setting up of a development board for coconut has been an outcry for long of the people of Kerala. The very name of Kerala is derived form "Kera", that is, coconut tree. Kerala means the land of coconut trees. That is only cultivation in Kerala. The only wealth of the people in Kerala is taken as the number of coconut trees and the number of acres filled by the coconut trees. That position has now undergone a very serious change. There has been a basic change.

The hon. Minister, Mr. Barnala, was in Kerala in August-September, 1977 and subsequetly also. He must have been impressed by green trees and impressed by the fact that the land is

so full of coconut trees. But this was a delusion. The coconut trees which he saw in Kerala, at least two-thirds of them, in the old Travancore-Cochin area, are in a state of decay. The trees are very seriously affected by pests. We do not get even one-third or one-fourth of the yield which we used to get from the coconut trees earlier. The yield has come down. Not only that. A coconut tree takes about 5 to 7 years to come to bearing. One goes on nursing the seedling, nurturing it and fertilising it. After 5 to 6 years, the first bunch of about 10 to 20 coconuts comes out and within 6 to 8 months, the leaves begin to decay. The rot starts at the top and then slowly it goes down and within a few weeks, the entire tree is decayed. The only solution suggested to the people so far is to destroy the tree.

The coconut plantation is not a large-scale holding business. Because of intensive implementation of land reforms, the size of the holding has come down. The minimum size of a plot of land held by a person is only 3 to 5 Cents. Even that man plants one or two coconut trees in the plot. The maximum holding may be about 10 or 12 acres. If you take 100 coconut cultivators, at least 85 of them will be small holders, holding less than 1 acre of land.

The basic problem in the matter of development of coconut plantation is investigation, research and intensive study. That should be the basic objective of the Coconut Board, to begin with.

But I am sorry, I do not find that seriousness and that importance reflected in the constitution of the Board. You have given it a top-heavy structure. In what was earlier conceived, you have made some changes. Out of 17 Members 13 were to be officials. What are these officials going to do? There were to be only three representatives of cultivators and others: what are these three helpless people going to do as against this big assembly of officials? It should not be a Board just for name's sake; it should be a real Board, a live Board keenly alive to the problems of the industry. The main problem is that of rejuvinating the plantations and giving life to what is almost on the verge of death or decay. That is the main problem--that of investigation, study and research and evolution of new strains and new types, because the old types are out-dated and they are prone to disease. Therefore, evolution of new types is very necessary. Now there is a new variety called T x D variety but even that is not very successful or very helpful because even that is prone to disease. So, it may mean re-planting. And what does re-planting mean? It means clearing up vast areas and removal of entire trees in the area-- that means the entire population being deprived of this main means of livlihood since their income depends on the number of trees. And so re-planting means a colossal investment of money, and that money has to be found.

A feeble attempt has been made to finance the scheme through the levy of a cess on copra. But the amount proposed is inadequate. It is proposed to collect only Rs. 5/- per quintal of copra. How will you collect this from the mills? The number of mills exceeds 4000, including rotaries and expellers. In kerala, for example, there are 60 expellers and 1000 and odd rotaries. These rotaries are manned by only two or three workmen. They are spread over the entire country-side and it would not be worthwhile going about, collecting the cess: even the collection charges will not be met by the amount realised because you will have to employ a paraphenalia of officers to cover the entire state. Formarly, this industry used to be concentrated in Kerala, and in my own town of Allepey there used to be several mills with 30 or 40 rotaries.

[Shri B. K. Nair]

But now this is reduced to a small scale because coconut is available all over the country and mills are also spread all over the country. So, how can you make the collection effective? It won't be effective because the amount proposed is far from sufficient for meeting the expenses.

Sir, in the matter of research I would suggest that something on the pattern of the Rubber Board should be seriously attempted. The Tea Board also, and the Tea Plantation Association too have their own development and research schemes, but the Rubber Board is ideal. Earlier the Indian Rubber Board had borrowed ideas from the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya but now they are in a position to export their ideas to other countries.

Therefore, even if the board comes to be re-constituted, I would suggest that a part from giving majority representation to the growers--because, after all, they are the people who have to deal with the problems and they have to explain the problems—the Board should be a sort of place for exchange of ideas. It should be manned by scientists and not by IAS people. What can IAS people do? It should be manned by scientists. Scientists should be there, investigators should be there, and a regular Institute of Research should be established. I would suggest that its centre should be in Kerala--not for selfish reasons but because a large percentage of the coconut plantations are in Kerala. Therefore, the headquarters of the Board should be in Kerala. We have an Institute in Kanyakulam, but it is only for name's sake. It has only a few dozen low-paid employees. They are not given any special task: they are not assigned any particular problem; they are just carrying on. You should now trust our scientists much more. Instead of sermonising and insulting them at meetings, saying they are fortune hunters etc., since our scientific department has very much developed now, if you trust them with the job, I am sure they will be able to evolve some solution for the diseases of coconut plantations. So far, it has been only a haphazard effort. Therefore sufficient funds should be provided and, on the lines of Rubber Board, a regular Institute should be set up. Intead of a Development officer, there should be a full-fledged Coconut Production Commissioner, who will be a Member of the Board.

Here it is also provided that the Chairman of the Coir Board will be a member of the Coconut Development Board. Why should he be here What has he to do with this? Unless you are anxious to find a place for one more official, he has no place here. Coir development, coir manufacture, coir sale, all these are handled by the Coir Board; that is an entirely different department.

One more point. After the development of this industry, what is going to happen to the product? Much of this is given for toddy-tapping. I am personally against this. When a coconut tree is given for toddy-tapping, that creates many anti-social problems-toddy drinking and all that. In any case, if that is to be so, I am suggesting that a substantial amount can be realised from the State Governments. They have to contribute a sizable amount to the Board because they are collecting huge amounts by way of excise duty from the sale of toddy. Every time as auction is held amounts go up by lakhs and lakhs of rupees. That has become a very thriving business. Many monopoly houses are there in the field and they would not mind paying a few lakhs of rupees at the auction. Therefore, one source of income may be from the State Governments themselves. They can set apart a part of their excise collection for the development of the trees. After all, the basic problem of the coconut industry is development of cultivation, improvement of cultivation. Extracting oil, development of

oil industry, finding markets, all these are insignificant compared to the basic problem of rejuvenation of the coconut trees, which means rejuvenating the population, the whole countryside of Kerala.

I have given notice of some amendments, and I will speak on them at the appropriate stage.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Barnala, you have to move formally the other Bill also.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Sir, I beg to move:*

"That the Bill to provide for the imposition of cess on copra for the development of the coconut industry and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the imposition of cess on copra for the development of the coconut industry and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

Mr. Yuvraj.

श्री युवराज (कटिहार) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो नारियल विकास बोर्ड 1978 प्रस्तुत है उस के संबन्ध में मैं अपनी राय रखना चाहता हूं । इस विधेयक के प्रारम्भ में ही बोर्ड के गठन के सम्बन्ध में यह बतलाया गया है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा नियुक्ति एक अध्यक्ष होगा और उस के और सदस्य इस प्रकार होंगे —

भारत सरकार के कृषि आयुक्त, पदेन,

केन्द्रीय बागान उपज अनुसंधान संस्थान (भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद्) का निदेशक, पदेन,

कयर उद्योग अधिनियम, 1953 की धारा 4 के अधीन गठित कयर बोर्ड का अध्यक्ष, पदेन,

तीन सदस्य, जो निम्नलिखित से सम्बन्धित केन्द्रीय सरकार के मंत्रालयों का प्रतिनिधित्व करने के लिये, केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त किए जायेंगे, अर्थात्:—(1) राजस्व, (2) उद्योग, और (3) नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता, इसके बाद (च) में है—

तीन सदस्य, जो बड़े पैमाने पर नारियल उपजाने वाले केरल, तमिलनाडु और कर्नाटक राज्यों की सरकारों का प्रतिनिधित्व करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा इन में से प्रत्येक के लिए एक-एक नियुक्त किए जाएंगे,

और (छ) में है—

तीन सदस्य, जो आन्ध्र प्रदेश, आसाम, महाराष्ट्र, उड़ीसा और पश्चिमी बंगाल राज्यों तथा अण्डमान निकोबार द्वीप समूह, गोवा, दमण और दीव, लक्षद्वीप संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों की सरकारों का प्रतिनिधित्व करने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा वर्णानुक्रम से बारी-बारी से नियुक्त किये जायेंगे ।

ये तीन सदस्य पांच छः राज्यों को मिला कर होंगे । मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जो सब से ज्यादा नारियल उपजाने वाले राज्य हैं जहां नारियल की अधिक खेती होती है और जिस की एक कृषियल पोजीशन है, वहां की एकोनामी में, वहां प्रत्येक राज्य से एक एक प्रतिनिधि का मनोनयन होना चाहिए ।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि अपने यहां इस देश में यह एक मुख्य कैश क्राप मानी जाती है और लगभग 11 लाख 26 हजार हेक्टेयर में इस की खेती होती है । जो छोटे किसान हैं उन को भी नारियल की खेती का एक मौका मिलता है । लेकिन इन छोटे छोटे किसानों को कोई मदद नहीं मिल पाती है । नारियल का पौधा जिस की उम्र लगभग 60 साल होती है लगाने के लिए कोई ऐसी संस्था नहीं है जो छोटे छोटे किसानों की मदद कर सके । जो मुर्झाने वाला रोग है, जिसके कारण नारियल के पौधे बड़े हो कर मर जाते हैं उसके सम्बन्ध में जो रिसर्च हुई है उससे इसका कोई निदान नहीं निकला है जिसके द्वारा नारियल के पौधों को, जोकि बड़े पैमाने पर रोगग्रस्त हो जाते हैं, उनको बचाया जा सके । नारियल से हमारे देश को काफी विदेशी मुद्रा भी प्राप्त होती है । नारियल पैदा करने वाले जो छोटे छोटे किसान हैं उनको अर्थाभाव, खाद तथा उपयुक्त मशीनरी के अभाव में कोई मदद नहीं मिलती है । यदि इस सम्बन्ध में किसानों की मदद की व्यवस्था हो तो बड़ा अच्छा होगा ।

इसी प्रकार से कोकोनेट प्रोड्यूसिंग स्टेट्स के प्रतिनिधियों को बोर्ड में शामिल करने की बात है । जैसा कि आपने बतलाया है, आप बहुत दिनों के बाद बोर्ड बना रहे हैं । एक प्रतिनिधि मण्डल वर्गीज की अध्यक्षता में 1975–76 में तत्कालीन कृषि मंत्री

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[श्री युवराज]

श्री जगजीवन राम जी से मिला था। उस शिष्ट मण्डल ने एक मेमोरैंडम भी दिया था। इस शिष्ट मण्डल ने उस समय श्री जगजीवन राम जी को सारी बातें कही थीं। उसके बाद 1976 में केरल में एक कोकोनेट डेवलपमेन्ट कार्पोरेशन बना। लेकिन जो छोटे छोटे किसान हैं जोकि बैकबोन हैं, जोकि नारियल की खेती में अधिक काम करते हैं, नारियल के पौधों के संरक्षण का काम करते हैं, ज्यादा मेहनत करते हैं, ऐसे किसान जिनके पास आधा एकड़ जमीन है जिसमें वे सौ पचास पौधे लगा देते हैं, जोकि एक भूमिहीन की तरह अपनी जिन्दगी बसर करते हैं, जिनकी कमाई के बल पर आज यह उद्योग खड़ा है, केरल में कैश क्राप्स में एक तिहाई आमदनी नारियल की खेती से प्राप्त होती है मगर ये छोटे किसान जो इसके विकास की अपेक्षा करते हैं उनकी अपेक्षा न तो केन्द्रीय सरकार और न ही राज्य सरकारों की ओर से पूरी की गई है।

15.2 hours.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

यह खुशी की बात है कि सरकार ने नारियल विकास बोर्ड कायम करने के लिए एक विधेयक पेश किया है। मैं चाहता हूं कि जिन जिन राज्यों में नारियल की खेती होती है, प्रत्येक राज्य से एक एक प्रतिनिधि बोर्ड में लेना चाहिए चाहे वह राज्य असम हो, महाराष्ट्र हो, गोवा हो या पश्चिम बंगाल हो। उन तमाम राज्यों से बोर्ड में प्रतिनिधि लेने चाहिए।

दूसरी बात यह है कि नारियल की जो कीमत है वह बहुत गिरती रहती है। इसका सबसे ज्यादा कंजम्शन अमरीका करता है और वह चाहता है कि इसकी मार्केट की रहे और फ्लोर प्राइस फिक्स न होने पाये। आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि जो किसान नारियल पैदा करते हैं उनको इतनी कीमत जरूर मिले जिससे कि वे अपने जीवन स्तर को ऊपर उठा सकें। इस बात की भी आवश्यकता है कि नारियल की अधिक से अधिक पैदावार हो और अधिक से अधिक क्षेत्र में इसकी खेती हो। छोटे किसान जो नारियल की खेती में लगे हुए हैं उनको ज्यादा लाभ मिलना चाहिए। बोर्ड में नारियल पैदा करने वाले सभी राज्यों के प्रतिनिधियों को लिया जाना चाहिए। साथ ही ऐसी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए जिससे कि इसकी फ्लोर प्राइस निर्धारित हो सके तथा छोटे किसानों का शोषण न होने पाये।

*Shri A. SUNNA SAHIB (Palghat): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am greatly privileged to participate in the discussion on the Coconut Development Board Bill, 1978. I come from the State of Kerala and the mainstay of Kerala's economy is coconut. The very word 'Kerala' is derived from the word Kera Vriksham, which means coconut tree. The coconut tree has the appellations of Karpaga Vriksham, Amudha Surabhi, which mean perennial source of wealth. I have referred to these things to stress the importance of coconut tree to the people of our country, especially to those living in the States where the coconut trees are in abundance. It is really regrettable that the coconut cultivation today is in doldrums, which has necessitated the introduction of this legislation. The Government of India have realised that coconut is a crop of great economic potential. I need not repeat that coconut cultivation is spread over nearly 11 lakh hectares and the annual production of nuts is of the order of staggering 60,000 lakhs.

At the very outset, I would like to refer to the composition of the Coconut Development Board. I am happy that representation has been given to Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. At the same time, I am sore that the coconut growers of Andaman, Nicobar Island, Lakshadweep Islands and Pondicherry have not been given representation on this Board. It is not enough that the bureaucrats from these areas are on this Board. Unless the representatives of coconut growers of these parts are given a chance on this Board, the coconut cultivation in these areas will not be helped properly. Either the elected representatives from these Union Territories or the representatives of coconut growers must be on this Board. I am sure that the hon. Members from these territories would heartily welcome this proposal. The hon. Minister himself has brought an amendment which I welcome.

Several lakhs of people, may be four lakhs or five lakhs, are engaged in the cultivation and in the processing industries based on coconut. It is really a pity that so far no significant development has taken place in the coconut product diversification and byproduct utilisation. In fact there has so far been no research and development work in this sector of national importance. For example, the cool water of tender coconut quenches the par-

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

ched throat, and it has also got curing effect for people affected by small pox. It is enough if you sprinkle this water of tender coconut on the person affected by small-pox. This curative effect of tender coconut must be put on sound medicinal footing so that it reaches the common people all over the country. I have personal knowledge that the poor coconut growers with their small holdings are not by themselves capable of developing or modernising this industry. There should be an institutional set-up to look after the integrated development of coconut industry. Here it is necessary that such an institutional set-up should be vested with adequate physical and fiscal powers to discharge the onerous responsibility of developing the coconut industry. Here it is necessary to mention how individual industrial entrepreneurs are helped financially and technically by the Government. I will give you an instance how scientific research has not gone to the rescue of coconut growers. The coconut trees in Kerala are afflicted by a virus disease. So far no serious effort has been made not only to control and contain this disease but also to eradicate it completely. Consequently, thousands of coconut trees have been felled by this foul disease. The Government should do something immediate in this matter and save this 'Kamadenu' from extinction.

I do not question the propriety of levying a cess on the copra. But I would like to question the steep increase from 60 paise a quintal to Rs. 5 per quintal. Secondly, besides the revenue raised from this source which may go to meet the administrative expenses of the Coconut Development Board, the Government at the Centre should give adequate subsidy to the coconut growers for the development of coconut cultivation.

As has been pointed out by the hon. Member who preceded me, I suggest that there should be a well-planned rejuvenation scheme for the existing coconut trees. Similarly, the people engaged in the cottage industry with coconut-frond thatching must also be helped with the execution of a time-bound scheme. Here I may point that there is the possibility of generating power from coconut shell charcoal, which would be useful for operating irrigation pumps and small generators.

The Government should not rest on the laurels of having enacted this legislation. At the moment the various by-products such as shell, pith, coconut water, etc. are being wasted for want of scientific knowledge about their utilisation. To give an example, the coconut growers do not try to engage themselves in extracting oil and that is because they would not get a fair price for their products. Secondly, they also do not have marketing facilities. Besides helping them financially with substantial subsidy, they should be given technical and marketing assistance. At present coconut is mainly treated as a food item. There should be a conscious attempt to save coconut from all sides of neglect.

Before I conclude, I would reiterate that representation should be given on the Coconut Development to the coconut-growers of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Islands and Pondicherry. The Government should not confine this representation from these territories only to officials. The coconut-growers must be assured of remunerative price for their products. The Government should also take immediate steps to eradicate the virus disease which has affected a large number of coconut trees in Kerala. Then, the cess proposed to be levied should not back-breaking. The coconut-growers must be given adequate financial assistance in the form of subsidy so that they can undertake on the spot developmental schemes. The Government should also work out a comprehensive scheme for profitable utilisation of byproducts of the coconut. The composition of the Coconut Development Board should be such as to represent both officials and non-officials of all the coconut-growing areas of the country.

I am thankful to the hon. Deputy Speaker for giving me an opportunity

[Shri A. Sunna Sahib.]

to participate in this important discussion.

SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL (Mathurapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I extend my full support to the Coconut Development Board Bill on behalf of my party. Sir, Coconut is a crop of small and marginal farmers and this is grown in about five million holdings and the size of the average holding is as low as 0.22 hectares. Coconut is grown over an area of 1.2 hectares. The present estimated level of production is around 6500 million nuts. However, the estimated demand by the end of the Sixth Plan is around 7320 million nuts and the additional production potential of 820 million nuts remain to be covered. So, steps will have to be taken for increasing domestic production.

Sir, the proposal to form a Board for the development of the coconut industry has been demanded by the growers of coconut during the last regime, that is, the congress regime. But their feelings were not responded to by that congress regime. Now this Government has felt the need for solving their problem and that is why this Government's effort is praiseworthy.

While supporting this Bill. I would like to suggest some points for consideration:

Firstly, the import of copra should be immediatly stopped. Import of copra from Ceylon, Malaysis and such other countries would hamper the interest of growers of our country. So, that should be stopped.

Secondly, I would suggest that the Head Office should remain at Kerala because Kerala is the place where large-scale production is there. Kerala literally means the place where conconut is grown. So, the Head Office should be there. There is no mention in the Bill regarding the location of the Head Office. Also, the representation of Gujarat and Karnataka has been ignored. In this Bill I do not see the name of Gujarat and Karnataka at all. I have information that Gujarat and Karnataka have also been producing coconuts on a large scale. That is why I say that their representation should also be there on the Board.

And, regarding the Chairmanship, I would suggest that no official member —either the IAS or the bureaucrat— should be the Chairman of the Coconut Development Board. Only a member from among the growers of the coconuts should become the Chairman of the Coconut Board. I feel that the interests of the coconut growers will be served more by the grower himself than by an IAS or some other high-ranking official member.

Regarding floor price, I would like to mention that one rupee at least should be fixed per coconut. That should be the minimum floor price. Necessary steps must be taken to see that the price of coconut does not come down. If import is continued, the price of coconut will surely come down and that is why I want to suggest that the import of coconut should immediately be stopped so that the home market of coconut can flourish. In this connection, I would like to mention about the use of green conconut in the Eastern region. Here green coconut is used for drinking the sweet water in it. I consider it a great waste. They do not know the actual utility of the coconut when it is ripe. The ripe ones are turned into copra which is a valuable raw material. Therefore, a propagation should be made so that the green coconuts are not wasted on a large scale. With these words I supoort the Bill.

SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN (Deogarh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, everybody knows the manifold and various utilities of coconut. I am not going to mention about that. I would like to say about the development of the raw materials that is with the growing of coconut trees on a large scale. India is a country with maritime climate. The coconut trees

grow well in the areas of sea-shore beginning from Gujarat along the entire West Coast region and on the East coastline which extends to thousands of miles and from the seashore, well upto 30 to 40 miles into interior, the entire area is suitable for coconut growing. So, this Board should and must give due attention to the development of coconut growing in this entire area. If that is done, I think the Board's utility is best served by 50 per cent and the rest 50 per cent may be done by other ways. Now, I do not know what is the culture and convention followed in other parts of India There is an age-old practice being followed and now also there is a socio-religious superstition that coconut trees cannot be grown by any other castes or communities except the Brahmins

SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN (Tiruppattur): Where is it followed?

SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN: Here in Orissa, it is followed. I am giving this information to the House. It is said that if the non-Brahmins grow this plant, their women would become barren. That means, they would not give birth to children. That is the superstition that is followed here. So, uptill now the coconut growing lands of non-Brahmins are barren. I will give you another example I will prove it also If you go to the villages in and around the seashore, you will find coconut trees are grown only by the Brahmin families and in the lands belonging to non-Brahmins, the coconut trees are not grown.

But, of late, persons belonging to other castes are also trying to grow, all the older coconut trees belong to Brahmins only. In this area, where only certain people have the right socially and religiously to grow coconut trees, the Board should come forward and propagate that each and every persons has the birth right to grow coconut trees.

Further, if such trees are grown to the maximum possible extent, most of the food problems and other industrial problems will be solved. Lakhs of acreas of land near the sea shore are lying vacant. These are, of course, sandy. Research should be conducted to find out how coconut trees can be grown in the sandy soil. The climate, of course is very good but because of the sandy soil, the coconut trees do not grow well. Then, in the interior of the country some two hundred miles away from the sea shore, coconut trees are now being grown. Even in Karnataka in the inland area the coconut trees are being grown. It is, therefore, expected that the coconut trees can also be grown in the northern India in areas like the Punjab and elsewheere. The area from whinch I come is at a distance of 250 miles from the sea shore, but even in that area coconut trees are grown. They grow well, but the fruit is not so luxuriant; these are tasteful but not big in size. The oil percentage is also the same.

Coming to the State of Orissa, when the hon. Minister had been to that State, he assured that lakhs of coconut trees would be grown within the coming five years. He took so much interest that he called some officers and asked them to give their suggestions and schemes for this purpose. I am told that these have already been sent but no reply has yet been given to the State of Orissa in this regard. I expect that the hon. Minister will take immediate steps in this regard.

Coming to the Board itself for whom this Bill has been brought forward, I would like to say that out of six non-official members, three come from three States and the other five or six States have to be represented by only three members. I think that this number should be increased so that one member comes from each State, for example one from Orissa, one from West Bengal, one from Gujarat, one from Goa, Daman and Diu and so on. Each State must be represented by one Member in the Board. Unless this is

[Shri Pabitra Mohan Pradhan.]

done, I think, the purpose of this Bill may not be truly served.

I expect that after the Bill is passed immediate and active steps would be taken to achieve the purpose for which this Bill has been brought forward. With these words, I resume my seat.

SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir: I welcome the Coconut Development Board Bill and congratulate the Government for brining it. India is an agricultural country; and after 31 years of freedom at least the Janata Party has brought this Bill. We have to congratulate and thank the Government for doing this, at least in the second year of its rule.

I have to mention 3 essential points which will really help the coconut growers in rural areas. I have seen that there will be a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 2 lakhs, i. e. likely to be incurred initially on the establishment of the Board and a recurring expenditure of about Rs. 8 lakhs to be incurred by the Board during 1978-79. I would suggest that in each State, there should be district branches of this Board. Otherwise they will ask the State Government to appoint some district branches for development of coconuts and to cover areas where coconuts are grown. Further, in Tamil Nadu, the agricultural officers are now looking after the growth of coconuts. But actually it is not sufficient, since these officers in Tamil Nadu have to look after all the agriculturist crops, including coconut. These Executive Officers in the Department of Agriculture in Tamil Nadu are called E.O. (Agri.) They are given some subesides in Tamil Nadu. For one coconut crop, they are given one rupee as subsidy. I would request the Minister to provide good varieties of coconut. i.e. high-yielding varieties to the farmers through the Block Development Offices, or the branches of the the Board in the State, or through the Board itself straightway, to agriculturists and coconut-growers. Fertilizers and pesticides also should be given free or as loan to the coconut growers. After 5 or 6 years, they can collect this back, in the form of coconuts, instead of money.

Clause 14 of the Coconut Development Board Bill empowere the Board to borrow money from

> "(a) the public by the issue or sale of bonds or debentures or both, carrying interest at such rates as may be specified therein;
>
> (b) any bank or institution."

I request the Minister to see that the nationalized banks give loans to farmers to grow coconuts. If they give Rs. 2,000- or Rs. 3,000/- per acre, we in Tamil Nadu can definitely cultivate millions of coconuts. Soil, weather and water resources in Tamil Nadu are most suitable for coconuts. I suggest to the Minister that loans should be given. For growing sugarcane, we give Rs. 2,000/- to Rs. 3,000/- as advance or loan. Similarly, loan should be given to the poor farmers to grow coconuts; and we can definitely grow plenty of coconuts in Tamil Nadu, and throughout India also.

I now find that in Tamil Nadu, at some places, even smuggling is taking place, of copra from Ceylon. Copra is now very costly. Nowadays the price of crops per kg. is Rs. 60/-or Rs. 70/- So, they are smuggling from Ceylon. India is having a very vast land; and we are having very good coconuts. But still we have to face smuggling of coconuts into this country.

I want the Minister to take definite action regarding this Board Rs. 2 lakhs will cover only the salaries and other expenses of the Members. We cannot do any real justice to the interests of the growers and farmers, as desired in this Bill. I would request that more funds should be given to the Board which is vital for India which is an agricultural country.

Thirdly, in this Bill, Pondicherry has been left out.

Sub-clause (g) of (4) says:

> "Three members to be appointed by the Central Government by rotation in the alphabetical order to represent the Governments of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Maharashtra, Orissa and West Bengal and the Union territories of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Goa, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep."

Here Pondicherry has been left out

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: It has been added by an amendment.

SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN: Thank you, Sir. Now I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister regarding marketing. Marketing is a big problem for the growers in so many places. In Delhi, I have seen that one coconut is sold at Rs. 2 whereas in Tamilnadu and other places it is sold at 50 paise and the maximum price is Re. 1/-. In our areas like Gudiattam Naniambadi Ambar and other places. it is not more than 90 paise. There must be marketing for the growers. As far as fibre is concerned, it should be given in the small scale industry to make coir. They are growing fibre without any use. I do not know what the Janata Government is doing it. When we approached the Minister of Industry about it, he said, "No, no, it is really for the cottage industry. We cannot give the licence to the small scale industry." At the same time, the farmers are saffering and with the fibre shells are being wasted. We want that the small scale industry should be brought up for improving coconut business. We suggest that licence should be given to the small scale industry for this purpose. I welcome the Bill.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I have mentioned to my friend Shri Surjit Singh Barnala many a time that agriculture—when I say agriculture I mean horticulture and the allied disciplines—is controlled by the American lobby in this country. That is why, precisely there has been no research; no planning, no drive for production and it has been an utter neglect. Because of coconut there could be more genetic improvement, there could be multi-cropping and there could be mixed farming. Why is it that for 30 years, it has not been done? Government owes an explanation to this House. We could have blamed the Congress Government. Now this Government has come. They should look into the papers and take the House into confidence. For 30 years, why it has been neglected?

What about the credit needs of the coconut growers? It they are cultivating coconut alone, the minimum cost per hectares would be about Rs. 2233; if it is a mixed crop, the cost might go up to Rs. 7200 per hectare. Have they ever bothered to make adequate financial credit facilities available to the coconut growers for such a precious crop? This is one of the aspects to which the hon. Minister would be owing an explanation to the House. Has any correct estimate been done? Has any preventive measure been taken? The loss on account of the disease, I am told, is three hundred million rupees per annum. This is not a small amount.

If you kindly look into the import figures of edible oil, particularly seed oil, you will find what coconut we could indigenously produce today. As days are passing, our dependence on import is increasing by leaps and bounds. Kindly look at the figures of importation of palm oil. I have been able to lay my hand on a piece of American publication where they have said that for cereals, for the time being, we have lost our market in India, but for edible oil, they will have to remain dependent on us for coming decades. They are making fresh investments in Malaysia and other places for cultivation of red oil palm. If hon. Members make a trip to Car Nicobar Island, the home of coconut, they will know. Last year the Public Undertakings Committee

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

visited; we went to Nakori island and we made a sudden trip, unscheduled trip to a nearby island. There is a community called Akujis; they have been exploiting the tribals of Andaman-Nicobar islands for the last one century; they have taken the blood out of them. How do they do it? They have formed a fake cooperative society. Copra is dried; they smoke-cure to prevent bacterial contact; I do not think it is successful. The man there refused to show me the books of accounts. I showed him a rule from the Rules of Procedure and I could see their books of accounts. He divulged that Car Nicobar tribals were selling copra at Rs. 1.75 a kg. for oil milling; it is being entered in the books of the oil millers at Rs. 8 a kg., they are keeping three or four middlemen in between in order to evade payment of taxes. The hon. Minister has got NAFED and other organisations; they are all anxious to do good to the tribals. The previous government had been shedding crocodile tears for thirty years for the welfare of Scheduled castes and tribes. Kindly go and see what is the physical and mental condition of tribals who are living there; they are suffering from perpetual malnutrition, disease illiteracy. Why? Because a product which is worth Rs. 8 a kg. is taken out; he is forced to part with it for Rs. 1.75 a kg. The government is a helpless spectator. I am sorry to say. The entire administration of Andaman is in the complete control of Akujis; it is an empire of Akujis and the government are helpless.

Coconut is the most important ingredient for chocholate industry in the west. For the western confectionary, even Indian confectionary coconut is indispensible. What are you doing about it? Are we doing our best to take advantage of that? No. We have not set up any coconut based industry, except oil extraction, leaving aside coir. Coir is in the hands of a few unscrupulous businessmen who are exploiting labour as best as they can. Coir is used not only for matting; it is used in automobile industry for air cleaning and many other things. Is adequate research conducted on that? No. It cannot be done. In Uluberia in Howrah, they had some research on extraction of coir from green coconut. In that area people consume green coconut; you cannot prevent a Bengali from drinking a green coconut if he could. It can be done through education but it will take 20, 30 years. If you force him not to drink green coconut there will be trouble. The research that was conducted there was discontinued and after the water is drunk, the green coconut is just thrown into the Ganges, the river. No work is done on that.

About the composition of the board, I had been on various boards; with all humility I can tell you that I tried to do my job as best as I can. It is my experience that government officials go to board meetings by the morning flight; they must be all the time looking at the watch to catch the evening flight. They read the brief the same day or a day earlier. There is hardly any involvement. I am not saying that this applies to all of them; but by and large it is so. Today he is in the Commerce Ministry and represents that ministry in the Tea Board; by the time he comes back in the evening, he is posted to the ministry of industry and he will have to go to the Jute Board. There is lack of involvement. The hon. Minister should make use of his colleagues; he is basically a Member of Parliament, elected by the people. I am glad to say that. He should take his colleagues into confidence because we are a class of people who are answerable to the people every five years. We cannot escape. If we do not do our job, we will stand rejected and we will not come back here. But for the civil servant that is not the problem. As long as he can sign his attendance register, the cheque at the end of the month is in his hands. He is not answerable to the public periodically. Therefore, for the composition of the Board you

must have small growers representatives, marginal gorwers representatives and more of elected people representatives so that they can be answerable in their own areas.

Mr. Gopal had been a Member of the Coconut Board for three years. He has not done anything at all. Therefore, we shall teach him a lesson this time. I would earnestly request you Mr. Minister while finalising the composition of the Board kindly bear this in mind.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I welcome this Bill. This has been the aspiration of the coconut growing people especially the people of our State as we stand for 90 per cent of the coconut produce in India. We had been representing through our agricultural organisation and while the hon. Minister was there in our State, we had just taken him round the coconut zone. He was very much impressed the necessity of having this Board. I need not narrate what is the importance of the coconut in my State of Kerala.

The very name indicates—'Kera' means coconut, 'la' means waves and 'alam' means land.

The people in my State possess two to three acres of land. There is no big plantation owner because of the new land reforms.

I want to make the misconception clear regarding this coconut oil. Unfortunately, some people interpret this as an edible oil. It is not. Out of the coconut oil produce, 60 per cent of the oil is being taken for industrial purposes. Only 40 per cent of the oil is being used for edible purposes.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: But it is an edible oil.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Actual pattern of usage is more for industrial purposes.

The coconut in the State of Kerala gives directly or indirectly employment to 10 lakhs people. Nearly 40,000 people are engaged in toddy tapping of the industry. One lakh people are employed in jobs like plucking of the coconut from the trees. Six lakhs of people depend on coir industry, retting, etc. The foreign exchange earned from this industry comes to Rs. 20 crores.

I would like to bring to your kind notice that the whole crop is facing a villain type of virus. It has become a problem for the growers. The remedy found is to chop off the whole tree. You cannot take away the disease by using pesticides. Now the question of replanning and replanting comes. The Board will be of great use in this regard to make enough of researches on this point.

Coming to the composition of the Board, I would like to mention in this connection the past experience of the Board. My submission is that it should not be burdened with officers The coconut growers of all States should be given due representation.

Regarding the real location of the Headquarters of the Board I may mention that it should be at Kerala as 90 per cent of the product is being produced in that State.

There are various ways in which the Board can function Coconut has been put to use in many ways. It can be of use in choclate industry, cake industry and many other industries where you can give employment to the rural poor people. In this way the Board can function. I hope, the Board will have a future and especially Kerala will benefit by the constitution of the Board. The Board will be of much use to the people of the country as well as the coconut growers of our State.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): Sir, I am glad that the whole House has welcomed this Bill.

When the Bill was presented, I received certain representations and

[Shri Surjit Singh Barnala.]

according to those representations I tried to introduce certain amendments.

Some of the Members have criticised the constitution of the Board saying that it gives representation to officials more than the non-officials. In fact, it is not so. For example, it is not mentioned whether the Chairman has to be official or non-official. He can be anybody. Then, there is the Agriculture Commissioner of the Government of India as ex-officio Member. In the commodity boards like this, his presence is very necessary because we have to deal with so many States and the Agriculture Commissioner is an authority who can go to all the States and get the work done. Then the Director of the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute is there as ex-officio member. He is a very important member. We cannot say that he is somebody who does not know anything about coconut because he is the person who knows about coconut, who is doing research in coconut and his presence also is very necessary. Then there is the Chairman of the Coir Board as ex-officio member. Coir is an industry which is dependent entirely on coconut. So, it was considered that his presence would also be beneficial. Then there are two members to be appointed by the Central Government to represent Ministries of the Central Government, namely, Revenue and Civil Supplies and Cooperation. Cooperation of these Ministries is also very necessary. So, their representatives have to be there. It is not necessary that these members should be permanent members but they should continue to be members and so, we have given two representatives to these Ministries. These are mainly the officials.

Then three members are to be appointed by the Central Government one each to represent the Governments of the States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, being States wherein coconut is grown on a large scale. Now, instead of three members, five members are to be appointed—I have brought an amendment—by the Central Government by rotation in the alphabetical order to represent the Governments of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Maharashtra, Orissa and West Bengal and the Union Territories of the Andaman and Nicobar Island Goa Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep and Pondicherry also.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about Gujarat?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Gujarat is not a coconut producing State as such. There is a very small area where coconut is produced. I can give the figures also.

This year when the Board is constituted, the first name will be that of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and then, of course, Andhra Pradesh, Assam will also come up.

Earlier three members were to be appointed by the Central Government one each to represent the coconut growers of the States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. We have now modified it. The Members from Kerala will be happy to know that four members are to be appointed by the Central Government, two to represent the coconut growers of the State of Kerala and one each to represent the coconut growers of the States of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Particularly because Kerala is mainly a coconut growing State and it derives its name from coconut, we have two representatives from Kerala.

Then there will be "one member to be appointed by the Central Government to represent the coconut processing industry". Then two members will be appointed by the Central Government to represent such other interests connected with the coconut industry which, in the opinion of the Government, ought to be represented. We can have labour, trade, consumers and others under this.

Then, the Board will have to elect its own Vice-Chairman. Now, as the number of non-officials is much more,

they can always have a non-official Vice-chairman, because while there are 15 non-official members, there are only eight officials. It is not correct to say that it is burdened with officials. It is necessary to have some officers and we have them only in that number.

Some objection was taken by some members to the functions of the Board. Probably, some of them have not gone through the provisions of this Bill. Clause 10 of the Bill refers to some of the important functions. The first one is:

> "adopting measures for the development of coconut industry so that farmers, particularly small farmers, may become participants in, and beneficiaries of, the development and growth of coconut industry;"

So, small farmers are to be given preference. Then,

> "recommending measures for improving the marketing of coconut and its products in India;"

An hon. Member referred to marketing. It is provided here. Then it says:

> "providing financial or other assistance for the development of highyielding coconut hybrids, adoption of improved methods of cultivation of coconut..."

Shri Viswanathan was saying that some arrangement should be made for finance. It is already provided here.

Then some hon. Members mentioned that copra should not be allowed to be imported. It is mentioned in clause 10(2) (f), which says:

> "recommending measures for regulating import and export of coconut and its products;"

There is another provision which says:

> "Financing suitable schemes in consultation with the Central Government and the Governments of the States where coconut is grown on a large scale, so as to increase the production of coconut and to improve its quality and yield;"

All these things are mentioned in the functions of the Board.

Then, Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu said that no research is done on agriculture as such. Perhaps, he did not want to have an answer. That is why he has gone away. But I would strongly refute his allegation that agricultural research in the country is under any lobby. He particularly referred to American lobby. There is nothing like that. Indian agricultural science and agricultural sereach have progressed and are doing well, and that is why we have reached self-sufficiency in food production. Similarly, in horticulture and various other crops we are doing very well.

Unfortunately, so far as coconut is concerend, though research has been going on for a very long time, no suitable method has been found out to deal with the root wilt disease. In fact the only method tried so far is to replace the plants by another variety which has been evolved, which is known as the tall dwarf variety. This disease is prevalent only in a particular area; it is not prevalent throughout the State. Efforts are being made by the scientists to find out methods to deal with this disease. Though for the last 35 years efforts are being made to find out some method to cure this disease, we are sorry we have not been successful.

A few days back when I was in Kerala, I met an old man who was growing coconut, who is not a scientist, who told me that he has found a method of curing this disease. I have asked my scientists to talk to this man and find out whether he can help us. So, we are trying to get help from all possible sources and we are trying to find out in what manner

[Shri Surjit Singh Barnala.]

this can be cured, because the replacing of the trees is very costly and further it is quite a difficult task.

16 hrs.

Regarding various States it has been mentioned that representation to all the States should be given. I will mention that we have given representation considering the actual cultivation of coconuts in the various States. Kerala, as was mentioned by many hon. Members, is at the top of course. They have about 700,000 hectares of area under coconut cultivation and they are the largest producers. but not 90 per cent. The total area under coconut is about 10 million hectares. In Kerala it was 6.92 million and similarly, the production figures are that out of a total of 5,837 million nuts, Kerala is producing 3,443 million nuts. It is a very large production, but not 90 per cent or 80 per cent as was mentioned. But we keep into consideration all these figures and that is why we had given them additional representation on the Boards.

Sir, there are other States as far example, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Karnataka has also a considerable area under coconut and Tamil Nadu also similarly is producing a large quantity of coconuts. But there are other States which have lesser area and are producing lesser coconuts. They have been given representation on the Board but in the manner as provided. About Gujarat also it was mentioned, but Gujarat does not have a considerable area under coconut cultivation and so we thought that representation was not possible to be given.

SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA (Bhavnagar): The Saurashtra region of Gujarat has plenty of coconut trees and is a coconut growing area.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I have seen it in the report.

SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: I have seen it in the ICAR Report.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I have also seen. There are some localised areas where coconut is being grown. Some Member suggested that it can be grown even in areas, particularly in Himalayas and Punjab and Rajasthan. Probably it is not possible. it is not necessary that it is only grown near the sea coast. It is not so because in Assam coconut grows. So it has nothing to do with the sea coast, but all the coastal States have better production of coconuts. That is what was mentioned by me earlier.

For providing finances, we have made a provision in the Bill, as was mentioned there. So, this Board will have its own finances and I hope that they will be able to do the necessary development work and this is a beginning which was rather called for for a long time, but I think that the purpose of the Board for serving the coconut growers, for serving the coconut Industry tand particularly the small and marginal farmers will be served.

I requeset that the Bills be taken into consideration.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the develpment under the control of the Union of the coconut industry and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The queetion is:

"That the Bill to provide for the imposition of cess on coppa for the development of the coconnut industry and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we take up clause-by-clause consideration, first of the Coconut Development Board Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 4—(Establishment and constitution of the Board)

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I beg to move*:

Page 2,—

after line 29, *insert*—

"(dd) three members of Parliament of whom two shall be elected by the House of the People and one by the Council of States;" (3)

Page 2 line 30,—

for "three members"

substitute "two members" (4)

Page 2,—

for lines 33 to 35, *substitute*—

"(i) Revenue; and

(ii) Civil Supplies and Cooperation;" (5).

Page 2, line 40,—

for "three members"

substitute "five members" (6).

Page 2, lines 41 and 42,—

omit "the Governments of" (7).

Page 2,—

for line 44, *substitute*—

"*Islands, Goa, Daman and Diu*, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry;" (8).

Page 3,—

for lines 1 to 3, *substitute*—

"(h) four members to be appointed by the Cenrtal Government, two to represent the coconut growers of the State of Kerala and one each to represent the coconut growers of the States of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka;" (9).

Page 3,—

after line 5, *insert*—

"(j) two members to be appointed by the Central Government to represent such other interests connscted with the coconut industry as, in the opinion of that Government, ought to be represented;" (10).

SHRI B. K. NAIR: I am told my amendments are time-barred. May I read them out?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No question of reading out, but you can speak on them if you want. I give you two minutes.

SHR B. K. NAIR: A full-fledged Coconut Development Commissioner should be appointed instead of a Development Officer. He should be a permanent Member of the Board and also of the Executive, as in the Rubber Board. Then only will the importance of the post be recognised, and then only will research activity be taken up in full swing. He should be in charge mainly of research.

Mr. Barnala has said that out of 23 Members, 15 will be non-officials, I do not know how, because in most cases the representatives of the State Governments will be Government officers only. No State Government will nominate a non-official as its representative.

It being a huge body, they should have an Executive Committee also. If the Board meets only once or twice a year, it will not serve the purpose. If you want to activise it and make it useful, you should have a compact Executive Committee of experts nominated by the Government. The Chairman of the Board should be the Chairman of the Executive Committee. There should also be the Vice-Chairman and the Coconut Development Commissioner, and there should be representatives of growers and also of workmen. There is no representation for workmen in this Board. The industry employs lakhs of people. I am not talking of the coir workers, but the oil extraction workers, the people collecting the nuts etc. Lakhs of them are being employed. In the Tea Board, the Rubber Board etc., there is representation given to workers. So, I suggest that the executive committee should have representatives of workers also, as also the Board.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Regarding workman, I had mentioned that in Clause 4(i) it has been provided that such other interests connected with the coconut industry as in the opinion of the Government ought to be represented, should be given representation. In that workmen can be given representation. We have to look to their interests also. That is why it has been introduced as an amendment.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your suggestion will be kept in view.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Earlier they had mentioned that the number should be larger when it was only 17. Now when I have made it 24, they say it should be smaller, I do not know why.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

†Page 2,—

after line 29, *insert*—

"(dd) three members of Parliament of whom two shall be elected by the House of the People and one by the Council of States;" (3)

Page 2, line 30,—

for "three members"

substitute "two members" (4)

Page 2,—

for lines 33 to 35, *substitute*—

"(i) Revenue; and

(ii) Civil Supplies and Co-operation;" (5)

Page 2, line 40,—

for "three members"

substitute 'five members" (6)

Page 2, lines 41 and 42,-

omit "the Government, of" (7)

Page 2,—

for line 44, *substitute*—

"Islands, Goa, Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry;" (8)

Page 3,—

for lines 1 to 3, *substitute*-

"(h) four members to be appointed by the Central Government, two to represent the coconut growers of the State of Kerala and one each to represent the coconut growers of the States of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka." (9)

Page 3,—

after line 5, *insert*—

"(j) two members to be appointed by the Central Government to represent such other interests connected with the coconut industry as, in the opinion of that Government, ought to be represented:' (10).

The Motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clauses 5 to 12 stand part of the Bill".

The Motion was adopted.

Clauses 5 to 12 were added to the Bill.

Clause 19—(*Constitution of Coconut Development fund*)

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†In view of Amendment No. 3 to Clause 4 having been adopted, (i) in sub-clause (4) of clause 4, new part (dd) was re-numbered as part (e) and parts (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i) were re-numbered as parts (f), (g), (h), (i), (j) and (k), respectively; (ii) at the end of re-numbered part (j) of sub-clause (4) of Clause 4. ";" was substituted by ";" and (iii) in the proviso to clause 4, "(f) and (g)" were substituted by "(g) and (h)", as patent errors under the direction of the Speaker.

Amendment made

"Page 7, line 36,—

for "1978" *substitute* "1979"." (11)

(*Shri Surjit Singh Barnala*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 13, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 13, *as, amended was added to the Bill.*

Clause 14 *to* 18 *were added to the Bill.*

Clause 19—(*Power to make rules*)

Amendment made

"Page 10,—

omit lines 27 to 36." (12)

(*Shri Surjit Singh Barnala*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 19. as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 19, *as amended was added to the Bill.*

Clause 20 *was added to the Bill.*

Clause 21—(*New*)

Amendment made

"Page 11,—

after line 11, insert—

"Rules and regulations to be laid before Parliament.

21. Every rule and every regulation made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be, after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or regulation, as the case may be, or both Houses agree that the rule or regulation, as the case may be, should not be made the rule or regulation shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect as the case may be ; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule or regulation." (13)

(*Shri Surjit Singh Barnala*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 21(New) stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 21(New) was added to the Bill.

Clause 1— (*Short title, extent and commencement*)

Amendment made

"Page 1, line 6,—

for "1978" *substitute* "1979"." (2)

(*Shri Surjit Singh Barnala*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made

"Page 1, line 1,—

for "Twenty-ninth" *substitute* "Thirtieth" (1)

(*Shri Surjit Singh Barnala*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

(*The enacting formula as amended was added to the bill.*)

The Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we take up the Copra Cess Bill, 1978. First we take up Clause by Clause.

Clause 2—(*Definitions*)

Amendments made.

"Page 1, line 9,—

for "1978" *substitute* "1979"." (3)

"Page 2, line 17,—

for "1978" *substitute* "1979"." (4)

††"Page 2,—

omit line 1 and 2."(6)

"Page 2, lines 11 to 13,—

omit "or where the said affairs are entrusted to a managing agent, such agent shall be deemed to be the occupier of the mill" (7).

(*Shri Surjit Singh Barnala*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill.".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4— (*Application of proceeds of cess*)

Amendment made

"Page 2, line 36,—

for "1978" *substitute* "1979"." (5)

(*Shri Surjit Singh Barnala*)

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††In view of Amendment No. 6 to clause 2 having been adopted, in sub-clause (1) of clause 2, parts (e), (f), (g) and (h) were re-numbered as parts (d), (e), (f) and (g), respectively, as patent errors under the direction of the Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 5 to 20 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1— (*Short title, extent and commencement*)

Amendment made

"Page 1, line 3,—

for "1978" *substitute* "1979"." (2)

(*Shri Surjit Singh Barnala*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made

"Page 1, line 1,—

for "Twenty-ninth" *substitute* Thirtieth"." (1)

(*Shri Surjit Singh Barnala*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.15 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

HUNGER STRIKE BY SHRI MANORANJAN BHATKA, M.P. AND SITUATION IN ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We now take up the Calling Attention. Shri Nihar Laskar.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR (Karimganj): Sir, I calj the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

That indefinite hunger strike by Shri Manoranjan Bhatka, M.P. and the circumstances that led to this situation in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

16.16 hrs.

[SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU *in the Chair*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): Sir, In January, 1979 Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, Member, Lok Sabha, from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands sent a charter of 90 demands to the Prime Minister wherein he had stated that if the demands were not fulfilled by 9th February, 1979 he would go on indefinite hunger strike before the Chief Commissioner's Secretariat at Port Blair. Prime Minister in his letter dated 17th January, 1979 wrote

[Shri Dhanik Lal Mandal]

to the Member that while the Government would give full and sympathetic consideration to the legitimate grievances of the people of these Islands, he did not think it was necessary for the Member to undertake an indefinite fast to press his demands. However, Shri Manoranjan Bhakta has gone on indefinite hunger strike from 9th February, 1979.

The demands are of various kinds. Some demands are political in nature, like a democratic set-up in the Islands, more powers for Panchayats, enlargement of Chief Commisioner's Advisory Committee, regularisation of encroachments on land as well as allotment of land to local landless cultivators in these Islands. Then there are demands relating to developmental matters like improvement of air service and starting of a new air service between Madras and Port Blair, improvement of both mainland-Islands and inter-island shipping services, improvement of roads and road transport in the islands, improvement in sectors like power, irrigation, education, health and housing. Yet another set of demands concern service matters of Government servants and labourers in these Islands and are also concerned with the conduct of some officers in the Administration.

Some of the demands concern the local Administration while other concern the Government of India. They are under examination and efforts are being made to expedite their disposal.

The Andaman and Nicobar Administration have also informed that on 17th February the local Cong. (I) Party organised a rally of about 2300 persons. On 19th February 96 women and 25 men also courted arrest by picketing in front of the residences of officers and the Secretariat gates.

According to the latest information received from the Andaman and Nicobar Administration the local Administration have provided full medical facilities to Shri Manoranjan Bhakta and a panel of doctors had been sent to examine and advise him and others to shift him for treatment to the hospital or accept treatment in the place where he is on huger strike. It is learnt that the local Congress (I) have also arranged a private doctor who is examining Shri Bhakta and advising him.

As mentioned earlier the points raised by the Honourable Member are under various stages of consideration. I would, therefore, appeal to the Honourable Member to give up the fast and talk to us.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: Sir, I have called the attention of the House because this is a very serious matter. An hon. member of this House, the sole member representing the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, is on fast and he is on fast for the last 12 days. As mentioned in the Statement, he started fast on 9th February. Today is the 12th day of his fast. We are really very concerned about his health. From the statement we do not find anything about it. The only thing mentioned is that some doctors are attending on him. A fast of 12 days means something very serious. I would appeal to the hon. Minister to take all possible steps so that nothing can happen to our member of the House.

Secondly, I am glad that the Central Government has realised the importance of the demands that he has made. His charter of demands contains 90 demands. But they have mentioned only a few demands in the statement. The Minister himself has said that the points raised by the Hon. Member are in various stages of consideration. But we do not know what stage of consideration. This is not the first time he has mentioned these things. For the last two years he is a Member of the House and we have seen him raising, several times, the difficulties and problems of the tiny Island of Andamans. But nothing has so far happened.

The demands are mainly two. One is for a local set-up for the people of that area and the second, his main grievance, is against the Chief Commissioner. The officer concerned is behaving as if it is his kingdom. There is nothing mentioned about that in the statement; it only refer to 'some grievances'. But the hon. Member had made specific charges against the Chief Commissioner there. Are you going to give any assurance to this House and to the Hon. Member who is on fast for so many days, that there will be an enquiry against this officer? What are you going to do? My first question is, what are you going to do about the charges he has specifically made against the Chief Commissioner—about corruption, nepotism and what not? You are quite silent about this in your statement.

Of course, I do know about the demand for a popular set up there. I believe there is an Advisory Council, but they have no voice at all. I have been told that even though there are some elected people and two are nominated—and if the elected members give certain points to be discussed for the betterment of the area, they are not discussed, not even put on the agenda. They say that it is simply an advisory body and only whatever the Chief Commissioner says should be discussed. So, what is the use of this sort of Committee? That is why they are demanding a sort of respectable set-up which can solve the problems of this island.

There are other small demands which can be implemented immediately if the local administration or the Central Government wishes. One is for drinking water to be provided to the villages. I have seen it for myself. In port Blair itself they get drinking water through a pipe from a distance of 15 kilometres. There are several villages on the way, but you have not given any connection to them. These people are thirsting for drinking water, but you are not providing it.

Then, another demand is for some sort of quarters, but to this also you are not listening.

Thirdly, buses are very few there and the population is increasing. So, more and more buses should be plied on the roads.

There are demands which can be easily met, but you are not listening. Therefore, he has no other alternative except to go on fast. I am glad you are requesting him to give up the hunger-strike, saying that you are looking into the demands. But kindly tell us, since you have said in your statement that the various points are under consideration, at what stage of consideration they are. If you give us some idea on this point, we will be really happy. The Member, also, is suffering not for himself but for the people there. If you show some concern for his fasting, I think the people there would be benefitted.

The first thing is, what are you going to do about the specific charges against the Chief Commissioner. Are you going to have some sort of enquiry against him? Recently, the Prime Minister also went there, and it is my knowledge that several people have made allegations against the Chief Commissioner. . .

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): I have also made several representations.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: So, why are you not listening? If the position is so, why can't you remove him? He is not a Lord there!

Firstly, kindly take steps against the Chief Commissioner, against whom everybody is complaining. Even the Hon. Member here, who is a Leader of one of the Opposition parties, is saying so, we are saying so and the Member who is fasting, is also saying so. He is the sole representative of the Andaman': kindly do something about this.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: I have personally made a representation

[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

regarding the demand for an elected body, to the Prime Minister—with a delegation from Andamans. That was done long before. The hon. Member is justified because repeatedly demands have been made and these are being neglected.

श्री धनिक लाल मण्डल : महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने प्रधान मंत्री जी को 90 मांगों का चार्टर दिया और प्रधान मंत्री जी ने उस के उत्तर में जो पत्र माननीय सदस्य को दिया, उस में यह स्पष्ट कर दिया है कि माननीय सदस्य को अपनी बात कहने का और लिखने का सब अधिकार है लेकिन अपनी मांगें मनवाने के लिए हंगर स्ट्राइक पर जाने की क्या आवश्यकता है ?

श्री समर मुखर्जी : उसको रोकने के लिए भी आपमें.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your name is not there, Mr. Mukherjee. I have already allowed you. This cannot be taken as a precedent.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: I am also making an appeal for the withdrawal of the hunger strike.

श्री धनिक लाल मण्डल : महोदय, मैं पूरे आदर और सम्मान के साथ श्री मनोरंजन भक्त से कहना चाहता हूं कि जब प्रधान मंत्री जी वहां की, अण्डेमान निकोबार द्वीप की जेल को राष्ट्रीय मेमोरियल का रूप देने के लिए वहां गये थे तो उस अवसर पर उन्हें अनशन नहीं करना चाहिए था । अपनी मांगें मनवाने का यह कोई तरीका नहीं है । जैसा कि मैंने अपने बयान में कहा है, और माननीय सदस्य भी जानते हैं कि हमने क्या क्या किया है । ये जो 90 मांगें हैं इनके बारे में पिछले तीस सालों में क्या किया गया जब कि इनकी सरकार थी? इन 90 मांगों का एक चार्टर एक साथ दे देना और यह कहना कि इनको इतने दिनों में पूरा कर दिया जाए, नहीं तो हम अनशन कर रहे हैं कहां तक उचित है ? इन 90 मांगों में से बहुत सारी बातों को पूरा कर दिया गया है । आपकी इंफर्मेशन के लिए मैं आपको बताता हूं ।

For example, children of government servants who die while in service, are being given employment as per existing rules of the Central Government. This is Demand No. 24.

Necessary age relaxation is being given by the Administration to the students being sent for training. This is Demand No. 25.

Whenever possible, interviews for jobs are held at outlying stations. This is Demand No. 26.

Action has already been taken to purchase more buses. Eleven buses are expected to arrive within two or three months and nine more shortly. 40 buses are planned to be procured during the Sixth Plan. This is Demand No. 51.

The foundation stone for a 46-bedded youth hostel has been laid by the Prime Minister. A proposal for a Janata Hotel has been mooted in the Tourism Ministry. This is Demand No. 52.

Mid-term transfers are being avoided as far as possible except in public interest. This is Demand No. 56.

The UPSC has agreed to make Port Blair a centre for UPSC examinations. This is Demand No. 60.

The provision made by the Municipal Board for additional labourers for sanitary work has been agreed to by the Administration. This is Demand No. 73.

The development of the existing airstrip is under consideration. A new strip near Port Blair with more facilities is also under the active consideration of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

इस के अतिरिक्त, महोदय, प्रधान मंत्री जी जब वहां पहुंचे थे तो उन्होंने दो-तीन बातों का एलान किया था । एक तो उन्होंने यह एलान किया था कि इन्टर हाईलेण्ड शिपिंग सर्विस जो कि मेन लेण्ड की शिपिंग सर्विस है, उसको हम एक्सटेण्ड करेंगे । उसकी मंजूरी हो गयी है लेकिन उसकी राह में कुछ बाधाएं हैं जिनके कारण हम नहीं कर सकते हैं । जब तक शिपिंग एक्ट में इस प्रोवीजन को रिलैक्स नहीं किया जाए तब तक हम नहीं कर सकते हैं । प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि वे उसको देखेंगे । जो उनके अधिकार में होगा, उस पर विचार कर के उसको वे करेंगे ।

ऐसे ही कार निकोबार में जो सोसायटी है, वह शिप लेना चाहती है, फेरी बोट लेना चाहती है, उसके लिए भी प्रधान मंत्री जी ने आश्वासन दिया है । मद्रास से कार निकोबार और पोर्ट ब्लेयर में एयर सर्विस के लिए भी प्रधान मंत्री जी ने आश्वासन दिया है ।

बाकी बातें किस स्टेजिज में हैं, किस स्टेजिज पर कंसीडरेशन में हैं, उनके बारे में मैंने सारी बातें आपको बतायी हैं। दूसरी मांगें बराबर पूरे कंसीडरेशन में हैं। इन 90 मांगों में से 60 मांगें तो ऐसी हैं जिनका लोकल एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन से सम्बन्ध है, उस से सम्बन्धित हैं और 30 मांगें ऐसी हैं जो सैंट्रल गवर्नमेंट की कितनी भी मिनिस्ट्रीज हैं, डिपार्टमेंट हैं, उनसे संबंधित हैं। तो उसमें तो समय लगेगा ही हमारी इच्छा रहते हुए भी। इसलिये मैं माननीय सदस्य से अपील करता हूं कि यह तरीका छोड़ दें, समाप्त करें और बात कर के इसको तय करें, यही तरीका अच्छा है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are prepared to look into the other grievances?

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: I also join in the appeal.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: About the Chief Commissioner, he has not said anything. Please tell that you are looking into that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has told that he is prepared to look into the other grievances you have mentioned.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: You should send a message to him that we all request him to withdraw his hunger strike.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House now stands adjourned till 11 a.m. tomorrow.

16.32 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, February, 21, 1979/Phalguna 2, 1900 (Saka)

GMGIPND—L—4037LS 26-9-79—880.